

*Hafa Adai!*

SUNDAY

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 111

APRIL 20, 2008

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
Should the CNMI  
grant improved  
immigration status  
to long-term alien  
workers?

Let your voice be heard!  
Go to  
[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)  
to cast your vote.

## INSIDE



### Window Treatment

Windows finish off a room and admit light and air, but they can be tough to dress.

**GOOD HOUSEKEEPING...**

Page 10



### New Tone

CD shops sell love songs again, and alcohol sellers are coming out of hiding in the southern city of Basra.

**WORLD...Page 18**



### New Territory

At first, Michael Angarano wasn't sure about signing up for the adventure film "The Forbidden Kingdom."

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 21**

Red Cross Walkathon raises 46K. **PAGE 3**  
807 join 'Take the Right Route' Day. **PAGE 5**

# Fitial EO found constitutional

## Judge upholds legality of electric rates

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**T**he Superior Court has ruled that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order that led to the revision of the electric rate structure in the CNMI was constitutional.



Wiseman

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman reversed the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s administrative hearing officer Linn Asper's decision that determined Fitial's Executive Order 2006-4 was unconstitutional as it violated the doctrine of separation of powers.

Wiseman, however, affirmed on separate grounds Asper's ruling that upheld the electric rates, which established CUC's billings of com-

plainants Rep. Stanley Torres and Jack A. Angello.

The judge said that because he has ruled that the changes to statutory law made through E.O. 2006-4 were constitutionally valid, he would not proceed to answer the hypothetical question of whether subsequent acts of legislation effectively cured any apparent constitutional defect in that E.O.

See **WISEMAN** on Page 4



### VETERAN'S LECTURE

World War II veteran, aircraft navigator and surviving prisoner of war Ray "Hap" Halloran speaks about his experiences as a crew member aboard Rover Boys Express, a Saipan-based World War II B-29 bomber, during a public lecture sponsored by the NMI Council for the Humanities called "Time Heals All Wounds... Almost", at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Friday night.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## Oldest known person turns 115 today

By **RICK CALLAHAN**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER



**SHELBYVILLE, Indiana** (AP)—Maybe it was a lifetime of chores on the family farm that account for Edna Parker's long life. Or maybe just good genes explain why the world's oldest known person will turn 115 on Sunday, defying staggering odds.

Scientists who study longevity hope Parker and others who live to 110 or beyond—they are called supercentenarians—can

**ON THE NET**  
New England Centenarian Study: <http://www.bumc.bu.edu/centenarian>

help uncover the mystery of extreme longevity.

"We don't know why she's lived so long," said Don Parker, her 59-year-old grandson. "But she's never been a worrier and she's always been a thin person, so maybe that has something to do with it."

See **HAPPY** on Page 4

Edna Parker holds a rose that she was given during a birthday party for her in Shelbyville, Ind., Friday, April 18, 2008. Parker, who was born April 20, 1893, is the oldest known human. She will turn 115 on Sunday, April 20, 2008.

## Study: Oldest Americans are also the happiest lot

By **LINDSEY TANNER**  
AP MEDICAL WRITER



George O'Hare, 81, a retired Sears manager from Willowbrook, Ill., is seen at his home Wednesday, April 16, 2008.

**CHICAGO** (AP)—It turns out the golden years really are golden. Eye-opening new research finds the happiest Americans are the oldest, and older adults are more socially active than the stereotype of the lonely senior suggests. The two go hand-in-hand: Being social can help keep away the blues.

See **RESEARCH** on Page 4

### ON THE NET

American Sociological Review: <http://www2.asanet.org/journals/asr/>



# Around the CNMI

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### USS Higgins arrives today

The USS Higgins, a 505-foot destroyer with approximately 380 officers and crew, will arrive today, Sunday, April 20. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce urges the community to join in welcoming these sailors. (SCC)

### CK Elem. School Class of '82 meeting

Members of the Chalan Kanoa Elementary School Class of 1982 (7th graders) are being informed that there will be a meeting on April 24, 2008, at the residence of Robert and Linda Concepcion-Torres in Dandan.

Final details for the reunion will be discuss. All classmates are encouraged to attend this important meeting. For more information you can contact Linda Concepcion-Torres at 288-8141; Lillian Mendiola Pangelinan at 483-5455 or Cathy Pangelinan Salas (in-den) at 287-3911 or e-mail reachlctorres@gmail.com. (PR)

### Live-fire training on Farallon

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, said that the U.S. military would be conducting live fire training on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla on Tuesday, April 22, from 7am to 1:30pm and from 6pm to 12am.

The location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla Training Area on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area on Tuesday.

Should you have any questions, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

### MHS Class of '88 meeting set

Members of the Marianas High School Class of 1988 are being informed that there will be a meeting on April 23, 2008, at 6:30pm, at the residence of Melvin and Eleanor Cepeda in As Lito, behind Saipan International School (SIS).

Reunion day is just around the corner. Final details to be discuss, for this reason all classmates are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

For more information you may contact Lillian Lizama Tudela at 287-3742 or Dennis Villagomez at 287-4689. (PR)

### Memorial Day meetings set

May 26, 2008 Memorial Day, we will be paying tribute to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are no longer with us. We will remember those who served our great nation so that we may enjoy the fruits of freedom of a democratic society.

This is to let all Memorial Day Committee members and all interested in being a part of the committee that we will meeting every Tuesdays at 9am, at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs on Capitol Hill building 1364. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend.

### Benito Clan reunion meeting

This is to inform the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Vicente Gogue Taitano and Juan Gogue Taitano that the next meeting for the "Benito Clan Reunion" will be on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at the residence of Prescilla T. Castro and Gloyd Martin in Kagman III, at 6pm. Family members are urged to please attend this important meeting. For more information, contact Eleanor Aldan Cepeda at 483-5974 or Cecilia Taitano Celis at 285-0607. (PR)

### Utility payment assistance available

Funds under the Mayor's Utility Assistance Program are now available to help qualified residents pay for one month of their power bill.

This is a federally funded program available to residents of the Municipality of Saipan who are unable to pay their power bill with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela said that applications may be picked up at his office at Afetnas Square in San Antonio during regular working days.

For more information call the Saipan Mayor's Office at 235-7304 or 234-6208. (PR)

### Hopwood upcoming events

- May 4,5,6: Accreditation visit. Parent and community involvement is highly encouraged
- May 19 - 20: 8th Grade Final Exams
- May 28: 8th Grade Promotion Day (2:30pm-5:30pm)

### MHS Calendar of Events

- April 21-25: SAT10 Tests
- May 5-16: Advanced Placement Tests
- May 12-16: Standards-Based Assessment Tests
- May 26: No classes (Memorial Day)
- May 31: MHS Commencement Ceremony
- June 3: Fourth Quarter ends

See COMMUNITY on next page



## Special Sunday Lunch at

# Festive Buffet

with Champagne, Beers and Wines

Only \$18.00 for adults  
\$9.00 for kids ages 5 to 12 y.o.

VIP and Local Discounts Apply  
Avail of our Swimming Pool facility, just ask your friendly servers



## Weekend Get Away

Over night Stay with Special Sunday Lunch for 2

\$99.00

Plus free entrance to Club V



Saipan Grand Hotel

A TanHoldings Company

For inquiries or reservation please call  
234-6601 ext. 301-302

Another exciting offer from the Grand

# Europe Highlights



## Tour 2008

France, Luxembourg, Germany,  
Switzerland, Austria and Italy.

June 14-29, 2008





# \$3,485<sup>00</sup>

Twin sharing/per person

**Includes**

- Economy class Manila-Europe-Manila
- Breakfast and Dinner throughout
- All hotel accommodation at 3-4 star hotels
- All tours mentioned with English speaking guides
- Transfer from Airport to hotel and vice versa
- Private long distance coach throughout Europe

Some restrictions apply.




For more information please call your travel agents,  
Lisa and Jie at (670) 235-3708 to 10 or e-mail us at  
customerservice@centurytravelagency.com  
www.centurytravelagency.com

## Century Travel

AGENCY, INC.,  
A TanHoldings Company  
Going the Extra Mile to Serve You!

Ground Floor CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan,  
PMB 193 Box 10000 PPP, Saipan MP 96950



# Red Cross Walkathon raises 46K

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter's 22nd Red Cross Walkathon exceeded its targets this year, drawing at least 2,000 participants and raising \$46,000.

According to Red Cross NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsch, "We're very pleased with the outcome. We made enough to continue with various upcoming community projects and to even keep the chapter open."

This year, the goal of the Red Cross Walkathon was to raise at least \$35,000. Instead, they garnered over \$10,000 more than that.

Despite the tight economic condition this year, the community still managed to turn out and give its annual support to the cause, Hirsch said. "We are very grateful and humbled by the community."

Hirsch said that about 125 lucky individuals will each get a one-gigabyte MP3 player after raising at least \$75 on their pledge forms. At least three will each receive Nintendo Wii or brand new digital cameras.

Other prizes included cell phones, water park passes, banana boat rides and gift certificates from various sponsors.

All participants at this year's

walkathon received a free Red Cross walkathon t-shirt.

The walkathon was held simultaneously on all three main islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Hirsch said the money raised this year would be used to support the group's operations such as outreach programs and training in preparation for disasters and other workshops.

The ARC NMI Chapter thanked this year's walkathon premier sponsors: Coca Cola, Subway, Foremost, Glimpses and others for providing free drinks and other freebies for the walkers.

*(Rianne Pangelinan-Brown)*

## COMMUNITY

From Page 2

### KagES registration starts

Kagman Elementary School has started registering children for grades Kindergarten to 5th for school year 2008-2009. Registration will end on April 30, 2008, from 9am to 4pm daily.

Kagman Elementary School will register children from the following areas only: Kagman I, II, III, Upper Papago (Botanical Garden to Kagman), Agag, and As Teo.

Kindergarten students: Child must be 5 years old, on or before Aug. 31.

First grade students: Child must be 6 years old, on or before Aug. 31.

The following documents are required for your child(ren) to be enrolled: official registration form, birth certificate, CHC health certificate (original), transcript/report card/withdrawal from exiting school, entry permit, if not a U.S. citizen, affidavit of guardianship/power of attorney (if applicable), map of residence, and health insurance policy. All students registering must have complete documents submitted on or before the end of the designated registration dates.

For more information, call the school at 237-3965/3966/3967. (PR)

### Koblerville Elementary School announcements

Kindergarten Registration for Koblerville Elementary School began on April 8, 2008. Applicants will be placed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration forms for ongoing KoES students for SY 08-09 will be sent home along with a notification on any required documents that need to be updated. Parents are being asked to come into the school and turn in these documents as soon as possible.

The next PTSA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 8, at 6pm in the school cafeteria. There will be a performance for parents led by the school's first grade students. All parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this very important meeting. (PR)

## DISCONNECTION NOTICE

PTI would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on April 22nd, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before April 22nd.

**THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION PTI CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE\*.**

Per an earlier announcement, PTI is no longer mailing out past due notices as of 11/01/06.

\* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than April 22nd. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4PTI (4784)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.



**RESTAURANT Moby Dick**  
Fresh Sea Foods & Steak

<i>Monday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Beef Sauttee with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>	<i>Tuesday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Fish Muniere with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>	<i>Wednesday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Fish Fritter with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>
<b>BENTO</b> Fried Shrimp Yasaitame Beef Sauttee Potato Salad <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>	<b>BENTO</b> Pork Ginger Shrimp Omelet Fish Muniere Potato Salad <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>	<b>BENTO</b> Chopsteak Shrimp Carreon Fish Fritter Gelatine <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>
<i>Thursday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Sweet & Sour Pork with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>	<i>Friday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Beef Sauttee with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>	<i>Saturday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Pork Steak with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>
<b>BENTO</b> Sweet & Sour Pork Spring Rolls Sausage Beansprout Gelatine <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>	<b>BENTO</b> Fried Crabmeat Spanish Omelet Beef Sauttee Potato Salad <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>	<b>BENTO</b> Fried Chicken Wings Pork Steak Shrimp Chopsuey Potato Salad <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>
<i>Sunday</i> <b>SPECIAL LUNCH</b> Shrimp Scampi with Soup or Salad (Clam Chowder Soup, Tossed Green Salad) with FREE Ice Tea (No refill) <b>ONLY \$6.00</b>	<b>BENTO</b> Pork Ginger Shrimp Scampi Crab Croquet, Gelatine <b>ONLY \$7.00</b>	

## ADVANCE X - TERMINATORS

A Professional Termite & General Pest Control Company

A Division of: Advance Group, LLC.

PMB 495 Box 10003, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel.: 670-233-4747 Tel./ Fax: 670-233-0210

Email: [info@wereadvance.com](mailto:info@wereadvance.com) • Website: [www.WereADVANCE.com](http://www.WereADVANCE.com)

### Services Offered:

- Termite Elimination Program
- Pest & Rodent Control
- Soil Poisoning
- Pre & Post construction
- IPM (Integrated Pest Management)
- Free Estimate & Consultation
- Commercial / Residential
- 24/7 "On-Call" service

Authorized firm for:



**Termite Interception & Baiting System**

Exterra is a Trademark of Ensysstex, USA / Australasia.

## IF YOU WANT TO SUCCEED, WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED.

Argosy University's **BS in Business Administration** and **EdD in Educational Leadership**

programs emphasize the interpersonal skills you'll need to make the grade. Because knowledge is one thing, experience quite another.

Our practitioner based faculty, personalized approach, flexible on-campus and on-line learning options provide graduates with real-life tools to succeed.

At Argosy University, we don't just teach. Our personal approach will help lead you to the human side of success.

**Attend our Information Session**

**Location: Café in the Park**

**Date/Time: Wednesday, April 23rd at 6pm**

# ARGOSY UNIVERSITY.

Learn more today at [argosy.edu](http://argosy.edu) or call 808.791.5258

Argosy University, Hawai'i Campus

400 ASB Tower | 1001 Bishop Street | Honolulu, HI 96813

©2008 Argosy University® 08-AU-2730 - 4/08



# Wiseman: Power rates legal

From Page 1

Here, Wiseman noted, Fitial transmitted E.O. 2006-4 to the Legislature for modification or disapproval as required by the plain language of Article III. That article enumerates the powers of the executive branch.

The judge said that the Legislature, however, took no action to modify or disapprove the changes to the CUC enabling statute that resulted from the governor's issuance of E.O. 2006-4 within the 60-day period provided in Article III.

"Consequently, the Legislature chose not to exercise its own check on the executive branch's law-making power under Article III, and this court finds no compelling reason to impose further scrutiny on the lawful operation of these branches," Wiseman said.

Court records show that Torres and Angelo had asked CUC

to declare that the enacted electricity rate schedule null and void and reverse the denial of their billing dispute.

In February 2007, CUC administrative hearing officer Asper denied and dismissed petitioners' billing disputes.

Asper ruled that Fitial's E.O. 2006-4 that led to the revision of the electric rate structure was constitutionally defective when issued, but that legislative action has cured it of its defects.

Given the extensive affirmative involvement of the Legislature in the CUC electric rate-making process, the constitutional objections to Fitial's E.O. no longer apply, said Asper in his order.

Torres and Angello, through counsel Wesley Bogdan, appealed CUC's denial of their billing dispute to the Superior Court.

Bogdan said the court must also reject Asper's suggestion

that the Legislature "cured" the unconstitutional manner by which the new rate schedule came into existence.

"The Commonwealth's newly enacted electric rate schedule is illegal, the Legislature did not cure this fact and it is this court's duty to call it like it is," said Bogdan in the petitioners' reply brief.

In his order issued Thursday, Wiseman concluded that CUC is an instrumentality of the Commonwealth, which is subject to reorganization power of the governor under Article 3.

Wiseman said the executive branch has broad powers to change the laws governing executive agencies, offices, and instrumentalities though executive orders, pursuant to Article 3.

The judge noted that Asper in his decision insisted that the plain language of Article III failed to provide a basis upon which the governor could so in-

vasively reorganize CUC and its electrical rate-making authority.

True, Wiseman said, Article III power allows the governor to "make changes in the allocations of offices, agencies and instrumentalities."

But Wiseman said Asper's interpretation of Article III limits the executive reorganization power to changing the names of offices, agencies and instrumentalities and shifting them among the major executive departments.

"Instead, the plain language of Article III endows the Governor with broader powers," he said.

Specifically, the judge pointed out, he finds that the plain language of Article III allows the governor to make changes to the organization of offices, agencies and instrumentalities "in their functions and duties that are necessary for efficient administration."

## Research shows older people are happier

From Page 1

"The good news is that with age comes happiness," said study author Yang Yang, a University of Chicago sociologist. "Life gets better in one's perception as one ages."

A certain amount of distress in old age is inevitable, including aches and pains and the deaths of loved ones and friends. But older people generally have learned to be more content with what they have than younger adults, Yang said.

This is partly because older people have learned to lower their expectations and accept their achievements, said Duke University aging expert Linda George. An older person may realize "it's fine that I was a schoolteacher and not a Nobel prize winner."

George, who was not involved in the new study, believes the research is important because people tend to think that "late life is far from the best stage of life, and they don't look forward to it."

Yang's findings are based on periodic face-to-face interviews with a nationally representative sample of Americans from 1972 to 2004. About 28,000 people ages 18 to 88 took part.

There were ups and downs in overall happiness levels during the study, generally corresponding with good and bad economic times. But at every stage, older Americans were the happiest.

While younger blacks and poor people tended to be less happy than whites and wealthier people, those differences faded as people aged.

In general, the odds of being happy increased 5 percent with every 10 years of age.

Overall, about 33 percent of Americans reported being very happy at age 88, versus about 24 percent of those age 18 to their early 20s. And throughout the study years, most Americans reported being very happy or pretty happy. Less than 20 percent said they were not too happy.

A separate University of Chicago study found that about 75 percent of people aged 57 to 85 engage in one or more social activities at least every week. Those include socializing with neighbors, attending religious services, volunteering or going to group meetings.

Those in their 80s were twice as likely as those in their 50s to do at least one of these activities.

Both studies appear in April's American Sociological Review. "People's social circles do tend to shrink a little as they age - that is mainly where that stereotype comes from, but that image of the isolated elderly really falls apart when we broaden our definition of what social connection is," said study co-author Benjamin Cornwell, also a University of Chicago researcher.

The research rings true for 81-year-old George O'Hare, a retired Sears manager in Willowbrook, Ill. He's active with church and AARP and does motivational speaking, too. His wife is still living, and he's close to his three sons and four grandchildren.

"I'm very happy because I've made friends that are still living," O'Hare said. "I like to go out and speak in schools about motivation."

"Happiness is getting out and being with people, and that's why I recommend it," he said.

Ilse Siegler, an 84-year-old retired nurse manager in Chicago, has a slightly different perspective. Her husband died 35 years ago, and she says she still misses him every day.

She has vision problems and has slowed down with age. Yet she still swims, runs a social group in her condo building, volunteers in a retirement home and is active with her temple. These all help "make life more enjoyable," she said.

While Siegler said these aren't the happiest years of her life, she's content.

"Contentment as far as I'm concerned comes with old age ... because you accept things the way they are," she said. "You know that nothing is perfect."

Cornwell's nationally representative study was based on in-home interviews with 3,005 people in 2005 and 2006. While it didn't include nursing home residents, only about 4 percent of Americans aged 75 to 84 are in nursing homes, Cornwell said.

It's all good news for the aging population. However, Yang's study also found that baby boomers were the least happy. They could end up living the unfortunate old-age stereotype if they can't let go of their achievement-driven mind-set, said George, the Duke aging expert.

So far, baby boomers aren't lowering their aspirations at the same rate earlier generations did. "They still seem to believe that they should have it all," George said. "They're still thinking about having a retirement that's going to let them do everything they haven't done yet."

Previous research also has shown that mid-life tends to be the most stressful time, said Cornell University sociologist Elaine Wethington. "Everyone's asking you to do things and you have a lot to do. You're less happy because you feel hassled."

The new studies show "if you can make it through that," there's light at the end of the tunnel, Wethington said.

### DANCE LESSONS

Visiting members of the Tensuien, Awa Odori Traditional Dance Group from Ko-Enji, Tokyo, Japan, and kids of Koblerville Youth Center teach members of the manamko the steps for the Awa Odori dance at the Aging Office in Garapan Thursday morning. The event is part of the Paseo De Marianas Promoters Inc's 2nd Awa Odori Festival. JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



## Happy birthday to world's oldest person

From Page 1

On Friday, Parker laughed and smiled as relatives and guests released 115 balloons into sunny skies outside her nursing home. Dressed in pearls, a blue and white polka dot dress and new white shoes, she clutched a red rose during the festivities.

Two years ago, researchers from the New England Centenarian Study at Boston University took a blood sample from Parker for the group's DNA database of supercentenarians.

Her DNA is now preserved with samples of about 100 other people who made the 110-year milestone and whose genes are being analyzed, said Dr. Tom Perls, an aging specialist who directs the project.

"They're really our best bet for finding the elusive Holy Grail of our field—which are these longevity-enabling genes," he said.

There are only 75 people

alive—64 women and 11 men—that are 110 or older, according to the Gerontology Research Group, an Inglewood, California-based group that verifies reports of extreme ages.

Parker, who was born April 20, 1893, was recognized by Guinness World Records as the oldest of that group last August after the death of a Japanese woman four months her senior.

A widow since her husband, Earl, died in 1938 of a heart attack, Parker lived alone in their farmhouse until age 100, when she moved into her son Clifford's home. She cheated death a few months later.

One winter's night, Clifford and his wife returned home from a high school basketball game to find her was missing. Don, their son, says he discovered his grandmother in the snowy darkness near the farm's apple orchard. He scooped up her rigid body and rushed back to the house.

"We really thought that was the end of her," he said.

But Parker recovered fully, suffering only frostbitten fingertips.

Fifteen years later, her room at the Heritage House Convalescent Center in Shelbyville, Indiana, about 25 miles (40 kilometers) southeast of Indianapolis, is adorned with teddy bears and photos of her five grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great grandchildren. She's outlived her two sons, Clifford and Earl Jr.

During a visit this week, Parker was captivated by a new album of photos and documents from her life that Don's wife, Charlene, had assembled.

"That's the boys," she said hoarsely, tapping a photo of her two late sons in their youth. "Clifford and Junior."

Her two sisters also are deceased. Georgia lived to be 99, while her sister Opal was 88 when she died.

Parker's long-lived sisters are

typical of other centenarians, according to Dr. Nir Barzilai, director of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Institute for Aging Research in New York. Nearly all of them have a sister, mother or other relative who lived a long life, he said.

"Longevity is in the family history," Barzilai said.

He and other scientists have found several genetic mutations in centenarians that may play a role in either slowing the aging process or boosting resistance to age-related diseases.

Perls said the secret to a long life is now believed to be a mix of genetics and environmental factors such as health habits. He said his research on about 1,500 centenarians hints at another factor that may protect people from illnesses such as heart attacks and stroke—they appear not to dwell on stressful events.

"They seem to manage their stress better than the rest of us," he said.



## Man sues six persons over CDA loan records

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A man has sued six persons over the alleged refusal to permit him access to Commonwealth Development Authority records.

Joaquin M. Manglona sued Theresita B. Baza and sisters Tracy B. Pangelinan, Josephine B. Pangelinan, Catherine B. Pangelinan, and Melissa P. McConnell.

Manglona, through counsel Douglas F. Cushnie, asked the Superior Court to order the defendants to authorize and make available to him all records from CDA relating to the loan of Baza.

The plaintiff requested the court to stop any attempt at foreclosure of his interest in a lot containing 2,379 square meters.

He asked the court to confirm the title of the lot to him, having fully satisfied all obligations under a lease agreement contract.

Cushnie stated in the complaint that Manglona and Herman S.N. Pangelinan entered a lease of real property containing the subject lot on Dec. 31, 1984.

Baza is the widow of Herman Pangelinan, and the remaining defendants are children of Herman Pangelinan.

Cushnie said that, on June 18, 1997, defendants entered into a "conditional contract of sale of real property" with Manglona, covering the subject lot.

A provision of the contract sets forth a purchase price for the property of \$250,000.

A section of the contract, Cushnie said, provides that a payment of \$10,000 be made upon execution of the contract.

That section of the contract, he said, provides that Manglona is to pay a CDA loan in the principal sum of \$120,000 owed by Baza over a period of time.

"That section of the contract provides for a payment of the balance in the amount of \$108,506.20, this figure being arrived at by deduction from the original contract amount of payments made on the CDA loan," the lawyer said.

He said the defendants have demanded of Manglona that he pay an alleged outstanding balance on the contract and they also have threatened imminent foreclosure.

"Plaintiff has requested of defendants access to the CDA payment records showing the payments that have been made by Manglona, as well as any refinancing that it is believed has occurred, records which CDA will not release without the permission of Baza," Cushnie said.

That information, the lawyer pointed out, is necessary to establish the amount paid under the provision of the contract.

"Defendants have failed and refused to provide access to CDA records, leaving Manglona without firm, verifiable information as to the amount due under the contract," he said.

Cushnie added that such refusal to permit access to CDA records have made the contract impossible for plaintiff to perform.

## 807 join 'Take the Right Route' Day

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN**  
Rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

At least 807 individuals in the CNMI participated in the first-ever "Take the Right Route Day" on April 11 in an effort to reduce carbon footprint by walking, running, or biking to work or school.

According to statistics compiled by Coastal Resource Management natural resources planner Kathy Yuknavage, Rota had the biggest turnout with 324 participants, followed by Saipan with 246 and then Tinian with 237. More than 21 organizations on Saipan, 16 on Tinian and 15 on Rota walked, biked, ran, or carpool to work (or school).

Last week's "Take the Right Route" event was in conjunction with the Coastal Resources Management Office, Division of Environmental Quality, Division of Fish & Wildlife, and the Marianas Islands Nature Alliance to promote carbon reduction by means of walking, running, biking, or carpooling.

According to Yuknavage, "I feel we did very well this year, especially since this is the first time we've ever held this event."

## Driver said seriously hurt in Tinian helmet attack

A driver was seriously injured when a man allegedly struck his head with a motorcycle helmet last week on Tinian.

As of yesterday, the Department of Public Safety's information office had yet to release information about the attack.

## American Samoa veterans to receive counseling services

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (Radio New Zealand International/PIR)—A team from the Veterans Administration in Honolulu is in American Samoa to assess the need for counseling services for veterans and their families.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the Take the Right Route Day either walked to work or carpool to reduce their carbon footprints.

Free beach zories were given to those who participated in the event, and free pencils were handed out to students to remember to "Take the Right Route."

Carbon footprint is the total amount of carbon dioxide (CO2) and other greenhouse gases emitted over the full life

cycle of a product or service.

Normally, a carbon footprint is expressed as a CO2 equivalent, which is usually in kilograms or tons. It accounts for the same global warming effects of different greenhouse gases.

Carbon footprints can be calculated using a Life Cycle Assessment method, or can be

restricted to the immediately attributable emissions from energy use of fossil fuels.

Yuknavage said the "Take the Right Route" event will definitely be held annually.

"I wish we can do it more often than that. We'll see. But we'll definitely be doing this annually," she said.

But sources on Tinian disclosed that the victim, a Chinese man, has been admitted at the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan for brain injury.

Source said police already identified a local man as the suspect but it was not clear

yet whether he was already arrested.

The attack reportedly happened in the parking lot of a nightclub on Tinian.

At first, the Tinian CHC first listed the victim as drunk. Medics had to argue with the nurses

to get the victim help.

"The victim is a very nice man, and we feel very badly for him and want some justice. He was hit from behind," a Tinian resident told Saipan Tribune on Friday. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

He says it's quite apparent that families of local reservists as well as veterans of earlier wars need help.

"One of the things that has come out of the deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan that has been almost monumental, and this is not just

in Samoa or Hawaii, this is across the nation, is that divorce rates are pandemic. It's huge. The difficulties that families are having, not only with the deployment but the veterans coming back from the deployment, the numbers are overwhelming."

**FIESTA**  
Resort & SPA  
SAIPAN  
A TanHoldings Company



- Sushi, Sashimi and Specialty Salad Bar
- Authentic Chinese Dishes
- Peking Duck Station
- Extensive Seafood Buffet Featuring Crabs Legs, Oysters and more

VIP/Local Discount Applies

## Sunday Brunch

Visit us every Sunday  
and enjoy the island's best variety of fresh  
cuisine prepared before your eyes at our  
numerous Live Action stations!

Includes Free champagne,  
Juices and draft beer with your brunch!

All for only \$25 for adults, \$12.50 for kids 5-11  
Starting from 11 am - 2 pm

Plus FREE Complimentary Pool pass!

*Live the Fiesta Way!*



- Carving Stations for Roast Beef and Lechon
- Italian Pasta Station
- Okonomiyaki Station (Japanese Pizza)
- California Mexican Station
- Dessert Buffet with Crepe Station

Call 233-6414 For Reservation and Inquiries



# Opinion

Hafa Adahi!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMFS FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 111Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### Anguish and hope

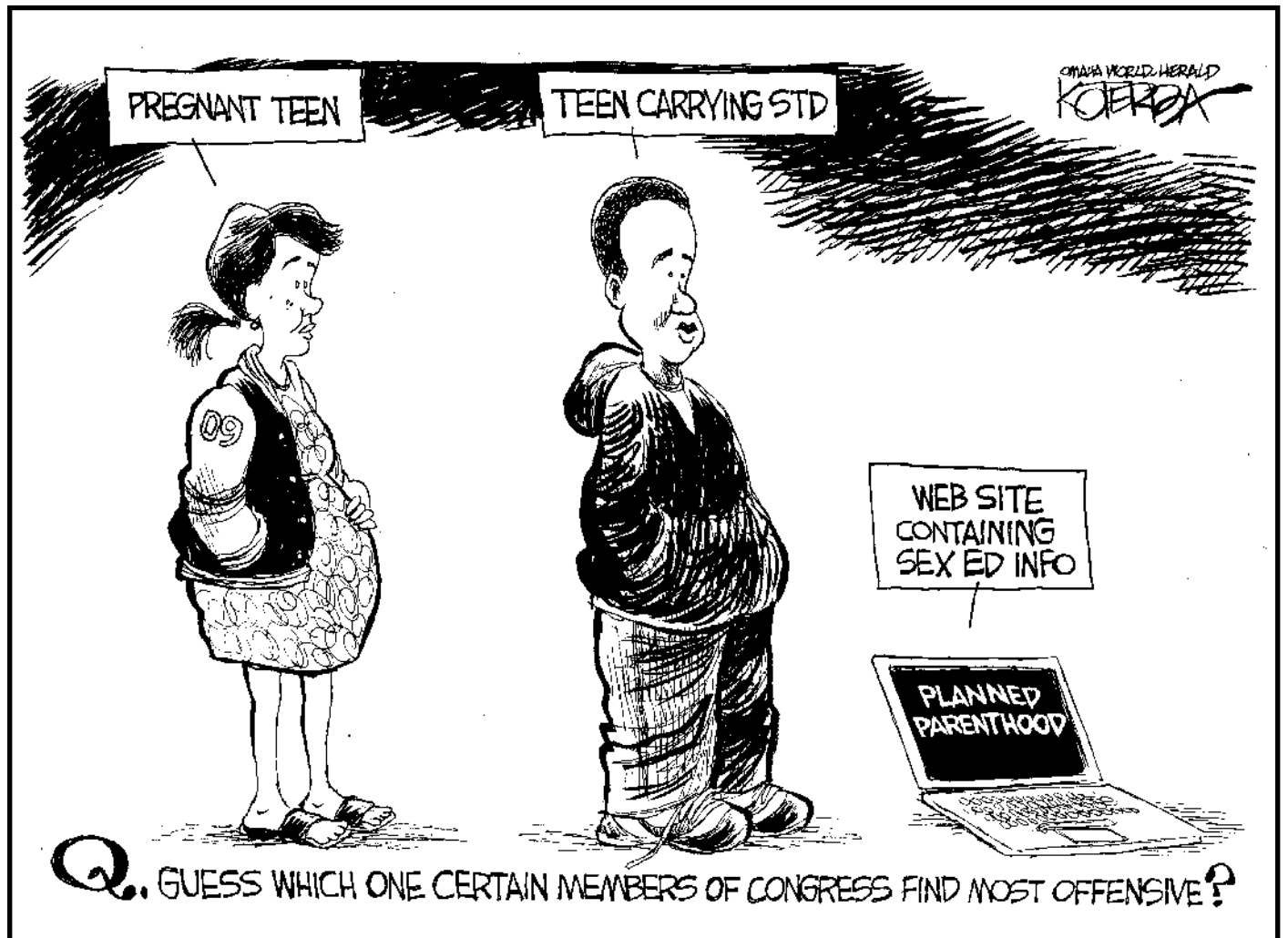
With a moving message of hope and healing during his historic visit to this city, Pope Benedict XVI opted to speak not only to the Catholics who claim him as their spiritual leader. He spoke to all Americans. His words were a positive reminder of our national character and its potential to do great good; they should serve as a challenge that we hope will outlast the memories of his visit.

The sun-kissed stands of the new Nationals Park provided a glorious setting for Thursday's open-air Mass. It was the first opportunity for many Americans to get an up-close look at the man seen as sterner and more guarded than his popular predecessor, John Paul II. Contrary to the expectations of some, Pope Benedict did not scold. He sought to inspire: "Americans have always been a people of hope: Your ancestors came to this country with the expectation of finding new freedom and opportunity ... (of) building a new nation on new foundations." No doubt the church sees challenges in a culture becoming increasingly secular and materialistic. But, the pope said, America remains a place of hope for people everywhere, and he preached trust in the power of grace to build "an ever more just and free world."

His message was made all the stronger by his acknowledgments of failures. No recounting of the American story is complete without mention of the injustices done to Native Americans or to those brought here as slaves. The pope reserved some of his harshest words for the church's own failings in dealing with pedophile priests who victimized thousands of children entrusted to the church's care. "No words of mine could describe the pain and harm inflicted by such abuse," he told his standing-room-only congregation. To place the scandal, as the pope did earlier, in the context of a loosening of standards overall in society is to understate what are, plain and simple, despicable crimes. But in the first visit of a pope to this country since the scandal broke six years ago, Benedict spoke of the matter three times, and, in a surprise move Thursday afternoon, he met with people who had been abused. His anguish reflected an understanding of the seriousness of the offense.

We were glad to hear the pope make a special appeal to American church leaders to "renew" their commitment to Catholic schools, particularly those in poorer areas. But perhaps the most heartening aspect of the pope's visit to the region, which concludes Friday as he departs for New York, is the effect it had on Washington, a city widely viewed as cynical if not faithless. The excitement—manifested by crowds clamoring for tickets to the Mass or, at the very least, a view of the cleric in the Popemobile—extended beyond the celebrity and the pageantry to respect for a man of unwavering belief.

© 2008, The Washington Post



## How this can end

By ANN GILDROY AND MICHAEL O'HANLON  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Last week, in testimony before Congress, Gen. David Petraeus had a chance to answer the half-rhetorical question he coined at the start of the Iraq war: "Tell me how this ends?" Appropriately, he chose not to answer. In fact, he declined to speculate whether U.S. combat force reductions beyond those planned through July would be possible later this year.

At one level, we know what the answer should be—an Iraq democratic and stable enough to hold together on its own once we leave. If politicians can resolve major differences without escalating bloodshed, and if they oppose terrorism, eschew nuclear weapons, and avoid blatant aggression against their neighbors or their own people, we will have achieved our core goals.

But how to get there and on what timeline? The American public is entitled to some answers. Petraeus is already cutting U.S. strength in Iraq from 20.5 to 15 brigades this year, itself a challenging process. But President Bush as commander in chief, and members of Congress as elected representatives of the people, must decide how much more effort this war is worth.

We believe that, after a 75 percent reduction in the rate of violence in Iraq over the past year, and significant accomplishments by Iraqi leaders on at least half a dozen key political matters, there is a reasonable prospect of achieving a sustainable stability there within the next few years. That said, continued progress will be far more likely if major reductions in U.S. forces beyond those currently planned await early 2010. There are six key reasons that such strategic patience is appropriate:

■ **Basra and the south.** As events in March showed, Iraq's south has a long way to go. Competing Shiite militias, with varying ties to Iran and the Iraqi government, pursue the spoils of power and oil wealth there. Basra is a virtual mafia land. Over time, the Iraqi government cannot leave this region, which accounts for 70 to 80 percent of the country's oil wealth, in the hands of criminals. We may not need large U.S. forces in the south, but we will need greater, not less, engagement in the coming year or two.

■ **Local and national elections.** This fall, Iraq is scheduled to have local elections in its 18 provinces. Next fall, it will have parliamentary elections at the national level. Election sites, political offices and campaign events all require physical protection. We do not want to make Iraqi politicians worry so much about security that they behave as they did in the 2005 elections, watching out for their own sectarian groups (and affiliated militias) out of sheer survival instinct. Those who claim that accelerating our drawdown will foster greater Iraqi political compromise and reconciliation do not, in our experience, understand the motives and the reasoning of most Iraqis.

■ **Refugee return.** Since 2003, more than 2 million Iraqis

have fled their country, and a comparable number have been internally displaced. With security now far better, many will be interested in going home. But as their homes are generally occupied by others, doing so could reignite an ethnic cleansing dynamic. There is no organized process in place to handle this problem. Nor is there an international or Iraqi program to help people relocate elsewhere in Iraq (with, for example, housing grants to build new homes, which could also help create jobs). Pulling American forces out before such a policy can be developed and implemented would ask far too much of Iraqi Security Forces, given the incendiary nature of this issue.

■ **Kirkuk.** The problem of disputed property is most acute in Kirkuk, an oil-rich city in northern Iraq that Kurds feel to be rightly theirs but where many Sunni Arabs reside as well (having been relocated there by Saddam Hussein in recent decades). A referendum was supposed to have been held last year to resolve Kirkuk's status. But the United States rightly discouraged the vote from happening then because there was no adequate mechanism to compensate those who would have lost at the polls (whoever they might have been). Until a referendum can be written, voted upon and initially implemented, Kirkuk will remain a powder keg. We will be asking for trouble if we expect Iraqis to handle this on their own so soon.

■ **A national oil law.** Related to Kirkuk is the question of how Iraq's future oil resources will be developed and shared. Bills to accomplish this remain mired in debate and dispute in Parliament, even as Kurdish politicians sign deals with foreign oil firms to develop sites on Kurdish land. In theory, this matter could be cleared up at any time; in practice, it will probably take a few months and additional American prodding. Any deal will then need to be implemented in good faith, something we will need to help supervise at first.

■ **"Overwatch" of Iraqi security forces.** The Iraqi army and police are much larger, better equipped and more proficient than ever. But they are still not a dependable force. Just last year, we had to ask Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to purge well over half the brigade and battalion commanders of each organization in the Baghdad area. Another round of purges, maybe two, may be necessary. American troops can evaluate Iraqi force performance only if we are on the streets with them, patrolling, tamping down violence when it arises and responding to crises when they become severe.

There is real hope for major progress on most of these matters in the coming two years. If this does not happen, or if backsliding occurs on other key political and strategic issues where progress has been made recently, the case for a continued American presence in Iraq will weaken. Either way, we can aspire to major additional reductions in U.S. force levels come 2010. But alas, probably not before.

Ann Gildroy, a captain in the Marine Corps Reserve, just completed her third tour in Iraq. Michael O'Hanlon is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# ‘Elitist’: The rarefied term that’s a low blow

By PAUL FARHI

© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Other than being called a criminal, a philanderer or a terrorist sympathizer, is there an accusation in American politics worse than being branded an “elitist”?

The word supposes something fundamentally effete and out of touch, a whiff of brie and latte. There’s something about it that grates against our Jacksonian, egalitarian self-image.

Barack Obama invited his opponents and the media, um, elite to wheel out the evil E last week by suggesting that some people in small towns “cling” to guns and religion, among other things, because of their embitterment. The comment created a rare moment of common cause for Hillary Clinton and Rush Limbaugh, both of whom characterized Obama’s comment as “elitist.”

For any politician, such an epithet pretty much stops the game in its tracks. So much of the machinery of modern political campaigns—the speeches, the ads, the photo ops—is calibrated to convey the illusion that the candidate is One of Us, that he or she is a man/woman of the people.

It doesn’t matter that those who run for president are almost always better educated, better dressed, more telegenic, far wealthier and more articulate—all in all, drawn from an elite class—than just about every voter in the country. We know it, but prefer to hear about log cabin beginnings and back stories brimming with Horatio Alger spunk and Norman Rockwell imagery. We want politicians, in the clichéd formulation, that we’d be comfortable having a beer with (tellingly, no one ever says “have a nice glass of merlot with”; we are not France).

And so candidates spend months burnishing their regular-guy cred. They chow down on corn dogs at the county fair (the county fair! so yeoman-farmer-ish! so pork-oriented!), visit the diner and the factory floor, and proudly sport their sweat stains at the Kiwanis parade. To prove her non-elitism, Clinton ginned up an anecdote the other day about learning to shoot a gun, and downed a beer and a shot in an Indiana bar (the Crown Royal chaser was a bit off message, however). Obama went bowling (the ultimate anti-elite game), though that didn’t work out so well.

It might seem a tad ironic for multimillionaires such as Clinton and Limbaugh to be calling anyone “elitist,” but “elitism” isn’t really about money. Donald Trump has money, but few think “elitist” when thinking of Trump. Elitism is instead an attitude, a demeanor,

a vocabulary, a self-possessed air. It suggests condescension and contempt, a lack of empathy, an arrogant aloofness.

Admittedly, it’s a fine line. It’s OK to be perceived as smart (Bill Clinton) but it’s not okay to be perceived as bookish and intellectual (Adlai Stevenson). And it’s okay to be elite. Olympic athletes are elite, as are Marines and Navy SEALs. But it’s not OK to be insufferably proud of your elite skills, which is just obnoxious.

John Kerry’s candidacy in 2004 was imperiled from the moment his Republican opponents started calling him “French,” which was just another way of saying “elitist.” Kerry didn’t help matters much when he went windsurfing (the anti-bowling of recreational sports) and ordered his cheesesteak with Swiss (elitist foreign cheese!) at a campaign stop in Philadelphia.

Opponents of former President George H.W. Bush often described him as “patrician,” which was also just a euphemism for “elitist.” Bush didn’t help the issue when he seemed befuddled by a supermarket scanner and at one point couldn’t answer a reporter’s question about the price of a gallon of milk. Democrats seized on both incidents to suggest that Bush was “out of touch” with voters, which is still another way of saying “elitist.”

Many charges have been hurled at the second President Bush, but elitism has never quite stuck. Maybe it’s the Texas twang, the self-conscious mispronunciations (“nucular”) or all that Reaganesque brush-clearing at the “ranch” (ranch: not elitist; estate: elitist). In any case, Bush, the scion of Kennebunkport, has evaded the E-ticket. While his surrogates were painting Al Gore in 2000 and Kerry in 2004 as privileged, Ivy League prisses—i.e., elitists—Bush’s cowboy swagger may have helped millions forget his own privileged, Ivy League background.

Mitt Romney couldn’t seem to shake the same aura of privilege that hung around his campaign like a gaseous cloud. Romney struck many as too perfect, from his movie-star looks to his Ozzie-and-Harriet family to his enormous personal wealth. On the campaign trail, Republican rival Mike Huckabee used to take a thinly veiled shot at Romney, saying that voters wanted to elect someone “who reminds them of the guy they work with, not the guy who laid them off.” Which, of course, is another way of saying “elitist.”

Just as people can seem elitist, places can, too. Obama had the misfortune to make his “bitter” comment at a fundraiser in San

Francisco, a city often derided as a bastion of ultraliberalism, which conservatives have long used as a synonym for elitism. No matter that the facts don’t support the slur (do they ever?). Most people in San Francisco live in rented apartments (not elitist), and many of its residents are impoverished immigrants. Los Angeles gets the same bum rap, mainly because it’s home to some wealthy and blabby celebrities. Some liberal college towns are caricatured as elitist (Cambridge, Berkeley) but other liberal college towns (Madison, Austin) are not.

Clinton’s cry of “elitism” against Obama certainly tickled conservatives such as Richard Viguerie, the direct-mail wizard who has raised millions of dollars over the past four decades for conservative causes and candidates. Viguerie and his allies have been depicting their political opponents as being at odds with mainstream Americans for years, employing such red-meat buzzwords as “Hyannisport” and “white wine.” So it’s edifying, he says, to hear the charge coming from the mouth of a Democrat.

Even so, there isn’t much in Obama’s background that suggests the word will stick, says Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster. She runs through Obama’s basic bio—his father abandoned the family when Obama was 2; he was raised by a single mother who, at times, struggled financially; he worked his way through law school; he became a community organizer in a tough Chicago neighborhood. With that background, she says, “I think there’s a pretty hard case to make that he is elitist.” Her alternative characterization: “Insensitive.”

Agreed, says Drew Westen, a clinical psychologist and political consultant in Atlanta who is the author of “The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation.” But Westen offers one key amendment: The accusation of elitism plays into a larger narrative spun by his opponents—that Obama is different. Some voters, Westen says, will assimilate the word along with other false notions, such as that Obama is secretly a Muslim, that he doesn’t wear a flag pin because he’s unpatriotic, that his pastor is unpatriotic, “that he isn’t one of us.”

Westen suggests not letting it go. Obama should fight back swiftly and often, he says, by offering the “counter-narrative” that is his autobiography: “Let people know that he’s just like them.”

Let them know, in other words, that you’re far too good to be an elitist.

## Letters to the Editor

### Invitation to sign petition

We invite all nonresident workers (Filipinos, Chinese, Bangladeshi, Nepalese, Thai, etc.) to support our petition to the federal government for our improved immigration status. We have received news that S. 2739 has passed the Senate. When signed into law by President Bush, S. 2739 will extend U.S. immigration laws to the CNMI, establish a federally administered guest worker program on the island, and help to secure our borders.

This is a huge victory for every advocate and person who has fought for decades to see an end to labor and human rights abuses in the CNMI, and to establish a just and democratic labor and immigration system in the CNMI. This is an enormous victory for the guest workers in the CNMI!

Congratulations to Ms. Wendy Doromal for her tireless efforts in helping the plight of the guest workers! May the good Lord always bless and guide you. You are our savior in our quest for justice, fair treatment and improved status and security.

To celebrate the Senate’s passage of S. 2739, there will be a Thanksgiving Mass today, Sunday, April 20, 2008, from 11am to 12pm, at the Mount Carmel Church.

Also, we will be at the Townhouse Store in front of Mount Carmel Church, from 10 am to 6pm, also today, April 20, where we will be collecting signatures from all guest workers.

Thank you for your support! God bless us all!

**Jerry Custodio**

*President, Human Dignity Movement*

## Two separate societies: One in prison, one not

By MARIE GOTTSCHALK

SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Forty years ago, the Kerner Commission concluded in its landmark study of the causes of racial disturbances in the United States in the 1960s: “Our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white—separate and unequal.” Today we are still moving toward two societies: one incarcerated and one not. The Pew Center on the States released a study in February showing that for the first time in this country’s history, more than one in every 100 adults is in jail or prison. According to the Justice Department, 7 million people—or one in every 32 adults—are either incarcerated, on parole or probation or under some other form of state or local supervision.

These figures understate the disproportionate impact that this bold and unprecedented social experiment has had on certain groups in U.S. society. Today one in nine young black men is behind bars. African Americans now comprise more than half of all prisoners, up from a third three decades ago.

Sen. James Webb, D-Va., held a remarkable set of hearings last October on mass incarceration in the United States. In his opening statement, Webb noted that “the United States has embarked on one of the largest public policy experiments in our history, yet this experiment remains shockingly absent from public debate.”

The leading presidential candidates have not identified mass imprisonment as a central issue, even though it is arguably the country’s top civil rights concern. Many of today’s crime

control policies fundamentally impede the economic, political and social advancement of the most disadvantaged blacks and members of other minority groups. Prison leaves them less likely to find gainful employment, vote, participate in other civic activities and maintain ties with their families and communities.

Congress recognized some of these barriers recently when, after years of delay, it approved and sent to the White House the Second Chance Act, which President Bush signed into law last week. This legislation seeks to ease the re-entry of prisoners into society by providing modest increases in support for mentoring programs, drug treatment, job training and education.

Bruce Western of Harvard soberly concludes in his landmark book “Punishment and Inequality in America” that mass imprisonment has erased many of the “gains to African American citizenship hard won by the civil rights movement.” Sen. Barack Obama glancingly made some similar points in an address at Howard University last September. But he generally has not focused on the perils of mass incarceration. Neither has Sen. Hillary Clinton, though the \$4 billion anti-crime package she unveiled last week did call for elimination of the federal mandatory five-year sentence for minor crack cocaine violations. As for Sen. John McCain, civil rights and criminal justice policy are not among the 15 issues the Republican nominee highlights on his Web site. But America’s space program did make the top 15.

At the hearings last fall, Webb underscored a basic truth sidelined in most discussions of crime and punishment: The explosion of the

prison population wasn’t driven so much by an increase in crime as by the way we chose to respond to crime. Even former President Bill Clinton, whose administration was an accomplice in the largest prison buildup in U.S. history, conceded in a keynote address at a University of Pennsylvania symposium in February commemorating the Kerner anniversary: “Most of the people who went to prison should have been let out a long time ago.”

A change of heart by Bill Clinton and other public figures will not be enough to reverse the prison boom. In rare instances, public officials have been moved by strong personal beliefs to empty their prisons. During his brief tenure as Britain’s home secretary early in the 20th century, Winston Churchill expressed deep skepticism about what could be achieved through incarceration, and he began releasing prisoners. Political leadership has been critical for major reductions in incarceration in other countries. But in many cases, the public and experts on criminal justice had to push politicians to begin emptying their prisons and jails.

It is a national disgrace that the U.S. incarceration rate is five to 12 times that of other industrialized countries as well as being the highest in the world. As Churchill once said, “The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilization of any country.”






*Marie Gottschalk, an associate political science professor at the University of Pennsylvania, is author of The Prison and the Gallows: The Politics of Mass Incarceration in America.*



Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼75°	▲84° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲88 ▼75
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲88 ▼77
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲87 ▼77
Chuuk	T'Storms	▲88 ▼77
Pohnpei	T'Storms	▲83 ▼72
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲88 ▼76
Majuro	T'Storms	▲83 ▼74

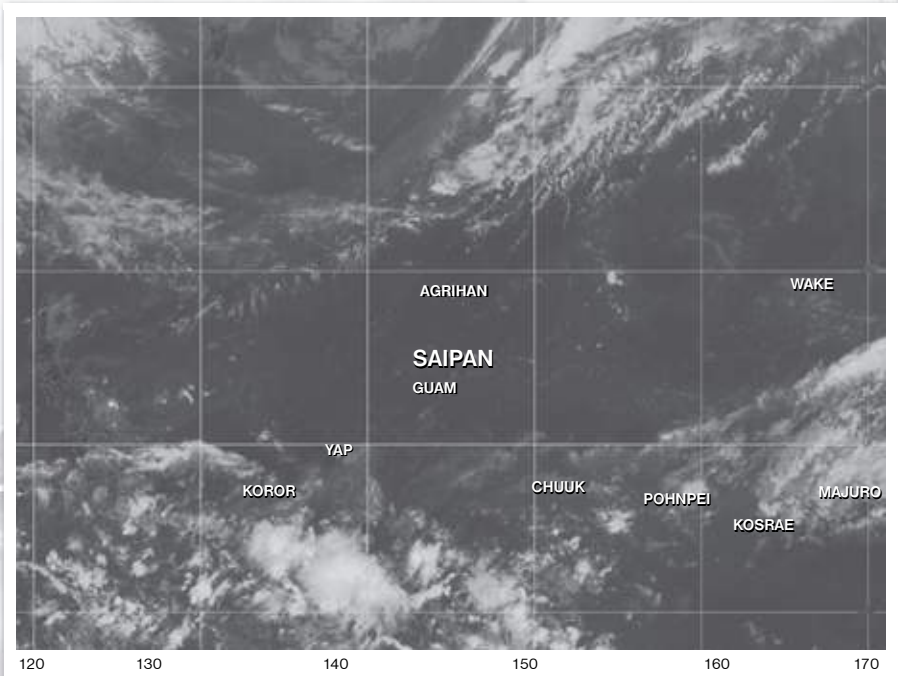
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲60 ▼49
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲63 ▼53
Hong Kong	T'Storms	▲82 ▼79
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼71
London	Cloudy	▲55 ▼45
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲66 ▼50
Manila	Cloudy	▲90 ▼76
Melbourne	Sunny	▲71 ▼58
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲85 ▼70
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲62 ▼53
Osaka	Cloudy	▲59 ▼50
Paris	Cloudy	▲63 ▼46
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲73 ▼52
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼55
Salem	Showers	▲49 ▼34
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	▲59 ▼43
Seoul	Sunny	▲72 ▼50
Tokyo	Rain	▲61 ▼48
Washington, DC	Showers	▲60 ▼50

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:40AM Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
7:06AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:04PM Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
8:32PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N142E to beyond 130E at 19N. Scattered showers are found along and up to 150 miles northwest of the front. Upper-level divergence is enhancing scattered showers north of 22N from 143E to 150E. This area is located north of the Marianas. A near-equatorial trough south of Koror runs southeastward from 5N130E to EQ142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 120 miles of the trough. Divergence aloft is coupling with low-level convergent winds to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Pohnpei, from 8N157E to 9N160E to 6N161E to 5N158E then back to 8N157E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 5N and 10N from 162E to 180. This area includes Kosrae, Kwajalein and Majuro. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms area occurring southwest of Chuuk, within 50 miles of 5N155E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00AM	6:32PM
Monday	5:59AM	6:33PM
Tuesday	5:59AM	6:33PM
Wednesday	5:58AM	6:33PM
Thursday	5:57AM	6:33PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:23PM	6:06AM*
Monday	7:13PM	6:46AM*
Tuesday	8:05PM	7:29AM*
Wednesday	8:57PM	8:16AM*
Thursday	9:50PM	9:07AM*

\*Following Day

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN**  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
  - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Sunday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$182. Off-island subscription rate is \$376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:40am 2:00pm Daily via Nagoya NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:15am 2:50pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:25am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
<b>Airline</b>	<b>ETD</b>	<b>ETA</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)







# Good Housekeeping

## Tips for treating your windows well

By ANNIE GROER

(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Windows finish off a room and admit light and air, but they can be tough to dress. "Beautiful Windows," a Woman's Day special interest publication (Filipacchi Publishing, \$17.99, 128 pages), arrives in bookstores next month to help. It offers hundreds of tips on measuring, hardware, tools, fabrics, placement and styles, from plain shades to swagged, trimmed and layered draperies. We asked Jean Nayar, an editor of the book, to open her own window on this key design element.

### Q. What is hot today?

A. A more streamlined win-

dow treatment is definitely the most popular look.

### Q. What if your window faces a wall?

A. I'd use a sheer Roman shade or roller blind with a pretty lace or scalloped edge to shield the view but let in whatever light there is. Frame it with some curtains mounted outside the window for dimension, color, pattern and character.

### Q. How do you cover a bathroom window?

A. Go for a sheer treatment for privacy from the outside. If the window is inside the tub enclosure, use ready-made, synthetic matchstick or bamboo shades to withstand moisture.

### Q. What about bay windows?

A. Mount Roman shades inside the frame of each window so they look consistent. To add a layer of curtains, install rods above the frame, just below the crown molding, and mount separate treatments on each.

### Q. How do you control light and temperature?

A. With layers. In front of sheer Roman shades, hang curtains lined in white or cream material, so they don't look dreary. When closed during summer days, they keep out heat and light; on winter nights, they keep out cold and light.



A more streamlined window treatment is definitely the most popular look.

## Getting organized

By JURA KONCIUS and KATHLEEN HOM

(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Deal better with all the stuff clogging up our homes. Where to begin? Start small, according to decluttering experts and home organization pros.

Vow to go through one drawer or one shelf each day before you leave the house. Take everything out, make piles to toss or give away, or include in your spring yard sale. Re-order what you are leaving in the drawer or shelf and make it neat and tidy.

Work your way through all the rooms in the house and all those places that stuff gathers, like the closet shelf, under the sink, the magazine basket, the spice rack and that ubiquitous junk drawer which must be de-junked every once in a while. This small amount of effort each day will add up to a more organized and spacious home.

One way to declutter is to find charitable organizations eager for the "gently used" books, computers, clothes, tools, baby gear, bicycles and other household items that tend to pile up for all of us. A new book we came across gave us some more ideas.

"Don't Throw It Out," by Lori Baird and Yankee Magazine editors (Rodale, \$18), is a hefty 368-page manual that shows how to shop smart, make household items last longer, fix things quickly on the cheap, and use what we already own in new, unexpected ways.

Some advice is basic common sense, such as keeping wood and upholstered furniture away from direct sunlight to avoid fading. Other suggestions are more surprising: Preserve the exterior of a backyard grill by rubbing vegetable oil onto the exterior, especially the top. Do this every couple weeks during barbecue season and before storing the grill for winter to prevent freezing temperatures, rain and wind from slowly eroding the finish. Good to know.

## Consider planting a vegetable garden

By JESSICA DAMIANO

(C) 2008, NEWSDAY

Unless you've been living under a pile of mulch this past year, you've surely heard the term locavore tossed about like a chopped salad. I've seen it in print articles and online, on a sign outside a local restaurant and in the produce department of one of my neighborhood groceries.

So what, exactly, is a locavore? According to Wikipedia, the term locavore "was coined by Jessica Prentice from the San Francisco Bay Area on the occasion of World Environment Day

2005 to describe and promote the practice of eating a diet consisting of food harvested from within an area most commonly bound by a 100-mile radius."

A few years ago, I caught wind of Alisa Smith and James MacKinnon, a couple of Canadians who, after learning that much of the food they ate had traveled an average of 1,500 miles before landing on their plates, decided to conduct an experiment whereby they would only eat food that originated within 100 miles of their Vancouver apartment. Soon, they were documenting their endeavor—more challenging than you'd imagine—in a

blog on an online magazine site called The Tyee.

They even turned their story into a book, published by Random House, titled "Plenty: One Man, One Woman, and a Raucous Year of Eating Locally."

It's not as easy as you might think. Do you like imported cheeses? Out. Tropical Fruits? Ixnay. And you can pretty much forget chocolate altogether. In fact, Smith and MacKinnon detailed their frustrations as well as their joys. Among them, they said, they ate a lot of potatoes.

The main drive behind the movement is ecological in nature. Eating local foods uses less "embodied energy," defined (courtesy of my husband, John, a green buildings proponent) as the sum of all energy used to grow, extract and manufacture produce, including the amount of energy needed to transport it.

So if you're eating tomatoes grown at a local farm, or even better, in your own back yard, think of the gasoline, truck emissions and packaging that you're saving. Less pollution in the air and in landfills.

Plus the food is fresher and probably tastier, as produce that needs to survive a long journey often is picked before it's fully ripe, never quite tasting the way it would if allowed to remain on the plant until ripe. Think about mealy winter tomatoes from the grocery store. Blech.

Interested in giving it a try? One very easy way to start is to plant a vegetable garden this spring. If you've never grown edibles, don't be intimidated, it's very easy.

Another good option is shop at local farm stands (just make sure they don't ship their produce in from elsewhere. Believe it or not, some do). Or you could join a food co-op or buy a share in a Community Supported Agriculture farm.

24/7 POWER  
AVAILABLE

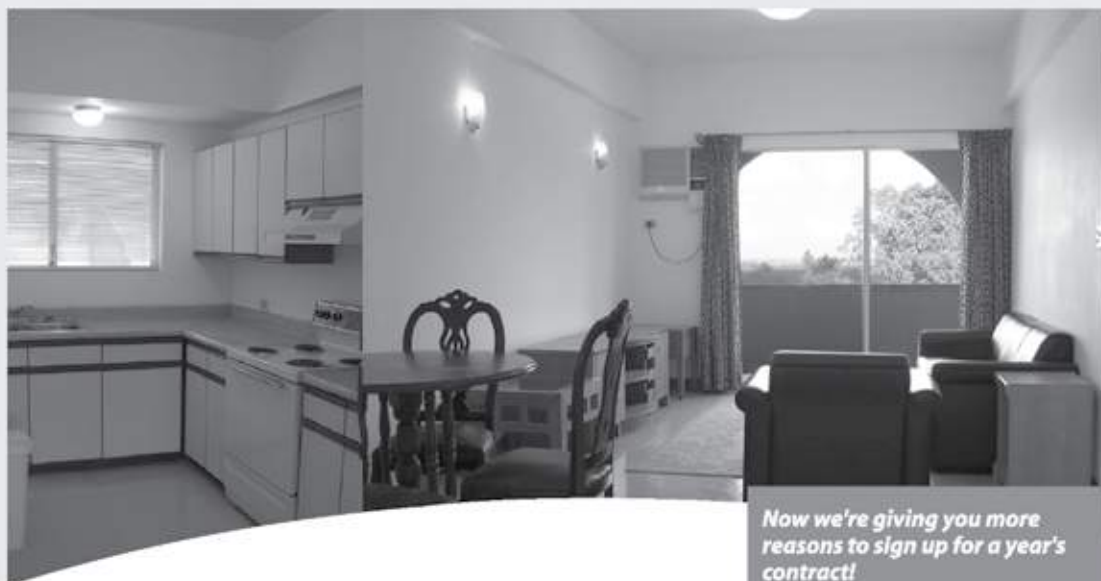


A TanHoldings Company

Realty Management services is a full-service property management company located on the island of Saipan in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PMB 521 Box 10000  
Saipan, MP 96950-8900  
Tel: 1 (670) 235-6527/28  
Fax: (670) 235-6530  
sales@rmssaipan.com  
www.rmssaipan.com

## SUNSETVIEW TERRACES



Now we're giving you more reasons to sign up for a year's contract!

Receive an annual FREE VIP Membership to Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and enjoy these VIP privileges:

- 1 Free Sunday Brunch Buffet for two
- 20% discount on food and beverages in all outlets / restaurants
- 20% discount on drinks after happy hour at the Chambre Bar
- Above discounts good for up to 6 persons (including VIP cardholder)

Spacious two bedroom terrace apartments with a beautiful view of Western Saipan from Navy Hill. All units feature a private balcony and are fully furnished.

FREE wireless DSL internet service.



- 24 Hour Water
- Night time security
- Typhoon Shutters
- Laundry area
- Backup Generator
- On-call maintenance staff



## SHELF LIFE



**“Extreme Weather Hits Home: Protecting Your Buildings From Climate Change,”** by John C. Banta (New Society Publishers, \$22.95, 256 pp.)

Even gradual climate change can wreak havoc on a home, warns indoor environmental consultant John C. Banta, who walks readers through steps to protect their property. He focuses on such issues as foundations, walls and roofs as homes built for one kind of weather are affected by changes in temperature, moisture levels and wind.

**“Green, Greener, Greenest: A Practical Guide to Making Eco-Smart Choices a Part of Your Life,”** by Lori Bongiorno (Perigee, \$14.95, 336 pp.)

This is a handy book that allows readers to choose just how big a commitment to make toward an environmentally aware life. Author Lori Bongiorno takes on a project—changing floor coverings, for example—and offers three possibilities, each requiring more commitment than the first. It’s intelligent and designed to allow people to ease into healthier living.

**“Green Living for Dummies,”** by Yvonne Jeffery, Liz Barclay and Michael Grosvenor (Wiley, \$19.99, 384 pp.)

This very broad book takes on the issues of raising environmentally aware kids, investing in green stocks, the local-food movement, home improvements and the three R’s of recycling, restoring and reusing. As is typical of this series, the ideas are quick bites, none too specific, but a decent introduction to several topics.

**“Squeaky Green: The Method Guide to Detoxing Your Home,”** by Eric Ryan and Adam Lowry (Chronicle Books, \$16.95, 158 pp.)

Authors Eric Ryan and Adam Lowry take readers on a spin around the average house, citing problems and offering solutions, such as getting rid of carpeting (stick with hardwood floors), avoiding chemical-laced antibacterial products (stick with soap and water) and making vacuum cleaners work most efficiently (use HEPA filters).

**“Easy Green Living: The Ultimate Guide to Simple, Eco-Friendly”** by Renee Loux (Rodale, \$25, 416 pp.)

This comprehensive book by Renee Loux aims to enlighten on better ways of living through healthy choices of food, cleaning items, home furnishings and other products. The advice is thorough and practical, with a focus on specific products she recommends, with explanations, and advice on why other products should be avoided. Loux hosts Fine Living TV’s “It’s Easy Being Green.” (*Newsday*)

## Replacing damaged door frame molding

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA  
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.



**Q: The top piece of the door frame in my son’s bedroom was gouged by an over-the-door hook that was sticking up at an angle. It looks easy enough to replace. What are your thoughts?—Harry J., Kansas City, Mo.**

**A:** A piece of molding, or trim, on the outside of the door frame above the door could be fairly simple to replace. Take a close look at the frame to see if the piece can be pried off. You’ll need a box cutter to slice through the paint between the molding and the wall and along the joint between the side molding pieces, and a small pry bar to

work the molding loose without damaging the wall or frame. Try to remove the piece completely intact, as it will be much easier to cut the replacement to size.

Take the molding to a building-supply store to find a matching piece of trim wood. Replacement trim in the exact size, width and color may be available; if not, most stores can cut the new wood to the same size and shape.

To install, set the unpainted wood piece into place to make sure it fits correctly. If it’s just a little too tight, sand the ends a bit (as well as the ends of the connecting molding) to get a proper fit. If too loose, wood putty can fill in small gaps between the joints after installation. Gaps of more than 1/8 inch are too wide and a new piece should be cut.

Nail the trim into place, leaving the nail heads sticking up.

Finish with a nail set—this makes the nails flush with the wood or slightly indented without damaging the surrounding wood. Test the door to make sure the new wood isn’t impeding its open and shut functions. Smooth wood putty into any small gaps, let dry and then prime and paint the new molding to match the rest of the door.



**HOME TIP:** Damaged trim or molding around a door frame or in a room can be unsightly, and patching with wood putty doesn’t always help.

Send questions or home-repair tips to [homeguru2000@hotmail.com](mailto:homeguru2000@hotmail.com), or write *This Is a Hammer*, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

## KITCHEN MAGIC

### Red Snapper with Collards and Black-Eyed Beans

This delicious Southern fish dish is accompanied by collard greens and vitamin-rich black-eyed beans, a combination which is said to bring good luck and financial enrichment. Serve with fresh, hot cornbread on the side.

1 bunch (large, about 1 1/4 pounds) collard greens  
1 medium onion  
Salad oil  
Salt  
1 can (16-ounce) black-eyed beans, drained  
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon paprika  
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme leaves

1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper  
4 (4-ounce) red-snapper fillets  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
Lemon slices and parsley sprigs, garnish

1. Coarsely chop collard greens and onion. In 3-quart saucepan over medium-high heat, in 1 tablespoon hot salad oil, cook onion until tender; add collard greens and 1/2 teaspoon salt; continue cooking until vegetables begin to brown. Add 1/4 cup water. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 5 minutes or until collard greens are tender, stirring occasionally. Stir in black-

eyed beans; heat through. Keep warm.

2. On sheet of waxed paper, combine flour, paprika, thyme, ground red pepper and 3/4 teaspoon salt. Press flesh-side of snapper fillets into flour mixture to coat.

3. In nonstick 12-inch skillet over medium-high heat, in 1 tablespoon hot salad oil, cook snapper fillets 5 to 7 minutes until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork, turning fillets halfway through cooking time. Remove fillets to warm platter. To same skillet, add lemon juice and 1 tablespoon water; heat to boiling; pour over snapper.

4. To serve, arrange collard greens on platter with snapper. Garnish with lemon slices and parsley sprigs. Serves 4.

(c) 2008 Hearst Communications, Inc.



*Saipan Tribune*, the CNMI’s first daily newspaper, is looking for fresh talent to join our team.

#### REPORTER

- At least two years’ experience writing for a newspaper or magazine;
- Must know how to write hard news, features, and business stories;
- Must have competent grasp of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and syntax;
- College graduate (Journalism, Communication, Creative Writing, English majors a plus)
- Must be methodical, analytical, detail-oriented, and can work fast within strict deadlines;
- Must be a fast learner, self-starter, aggressive, and a team player;
- Must be willing to work on holidays, weekends;
- Computer literate and with driver’s license.

#### SPORTS REPORTER

- At least two years’ experience covering sports for a newspaper or magazine;
- Must have competent grasp of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and syntax;
- College graduate (Journalism, Communication, Creative Writing, English majors a plus)
- Must be methodical, detail-oriented, and can work fast within strict deadlines;
- Must be willing to put in flexible work hours;
- Must be a fast learner, self-starter, aggressive, and a team player;
- Computer literate and with driver’s license;
- Must be willing to work on holidays, weekends;
- Must be passionate about sports.

#### ART DIRECTOR

- At least five years’ experience in the publishing industry or related field;
- Must have at least two years’ supervisory experience in the field;
- High proficiency in Adobe CS applications (InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop); knowledge of other applications for print and web a plus;
- Deep familiarity with Mac environment; knowledge in PC is a plus;
- College graduate (Fine Arts, Graphic Design or related course);
- Must have extensive knowledge in digital pre-press production and printing;
- Must be willing to work on holidays, weekends;
- Must be creative, resourceful, and can work fast.

#### GRAPHIC ARTIST

- At least three years’ experience in the publishing business or related field;
- High proficiency in Adobe CS applications (InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop); knowledge of other applications for print and web a plus;
- Deep familiarity with Mac environment; knowledge in PC is a plus;
- College graduate (Fine Arts, Graphic Design or related course);
- Must have basic knowledge in digital pre-press production and printing;
- Must be willing to work on holidays, weekends;
- Must be creative, resourceful, and can work fast.

#### EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

- At least high school graduate;
- Typing speed of at least 40 words per minute
- Must have extensive experience using Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint);
- Must be familiar with Mac computers (knowledge in PC is a plus);
- Must be willing to work on holidays, weekends;
- Must be a fast learner, self-starter, and a team player.

If you think you have what it takes to be part of this dynamic team, submit your most recent résumé and portfolio to the *Saipan Tribune*, located on the second floor of the CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan. Or e-mail it to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). On-island hires preferred.

*Hafa Adai!*  
**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



# The Good Life

## Learning acting and life skills

By SUSAN BRINK

© 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**LOS ANGELES**—Nick Daley, 28, has Prader-Willi Syndrome, a genetic disorder characterized by short stature, low muscle tone and mild retardation. He's also been in 17 films and 11 television shows, including a guest-starring role in last season's TNT series "Saving Grace."

"If I were a star, I would be on all over the world," he says. "I would be mobbed by fans. People would see my name and get my autograph."

Blair Williamson, 28, is an actor with Down syndrome. He has been in clothing commercials for Macy's, was once murdered in a "CSI" episode and had a nose job on a "Nip/Tuck" episode.

"I love being an actor," he says. "It makes me feel good inside me."

Daley and Williamson are among a growing number of people with developmental disabilities—including Down syndrome, autism spectrum disorders, mild retardation and seizure disorders—who want to be in the movies, or on TV. They want to make records, or be in commercials. They want what a lot of people in this town want: to be stars.

And some of them are getting close.

Their aspirations are a small part of a sea change in thinking about adults with disabilities since 1973, when California passed landmark legislation known as the Lanterman Act (updated in 1977). It granted services (and funding for them) to people with disabilities to let them live as independent a life as possible.

Since that time, people with disabilities slowly and persistently have paved a new way for themselves, allowing society to grow accustomed to seeing them bagging groceries, running flower stands, serving coffee or stocking shelves. "Our constituents want to work, to be active members of society, to earn money," says Dr. Paula Pompa-Craven, vice president of Easter Seals Southern California.

And over the decades since the Lanterman Act was passed, people with developmental disabilities are not only coming out of hiding, they're also showing up on the big and small screens as casting directors discover the obvious: People with disabilities who have acting talent can actually play people with disabilities.

According to statistics from the Media Access Office, California's liaison between performers with disabilities and the media, in 2001, the office submitted 1,087



LOS ANGELES TIMES

Dance instructor Lauren Hoskins, center, teaches the class a routine. The Performing Arts Studio West offers daily acting, dance and music training and has a studio to record students' songs.

performers' resumes, which resulted in 64 entertainment jobs. In 2002, the office submitted 961 resumes, resulting in 166 hires. Since then, says Gloria Castaneda, the office's program director, staff limitations have prevented updated statistics.

It's still a rough road for the 10 percent of Screen Actors Guild members who have a disability. But for talent agents such as Carmel Wynne, who places actors with developmental disabilities, this client pool is becoming an easier sell.

"Why shouldn't more people be able to turn on the TV and see people who look like them?" says Media Access Office volunteer Gail Williamson of Los Angeles, Blair Williamson's mother.

Probably the easiest casting call is when the role is for a character with a unique physiognomy. "It's a slam dunk with Down syndrome," says Wynne, director of talent at Performing Arts Studio West, a state-funded acting, music, dance and production studio for people with developmental disabilities in nearby Inglewood. She's referring to the classic facial features associated with the syndrome. "More nontraditional disabilities are harder," she says.

Although the viewing public has come to accept story lines about people with disabilities, typically, non-disabled actors get the roles, as in "My Left Foot," "As Good As It Gets," and "Rain Man." The 1989 television series "Life Goes On" was a breakthrough—a prime-time drama about a family with two children, one of whom had Down syndrome. In that show,

Chris Burke, an actor with Down syndrome, played Corky Thatcher, the child with Down syndrome.

John Frank Levey, now senior vice president of casting for John Wells Productions, worked with Burke—his first experience with an actor with a disability. "Chris Burke came into the network test, a dehumanizing experience for any actor,"

He was an actor."

Last week, another actor who trained at Performing Arts Studio West, Luke Zimmerman, 29, scored a coup—four episodes in an as-yet-untitled ABC Family network project created by Brenda Hampton, creator and executive producer for the TV drama "7th Heaven." The new project auditioned non-disabled actors for the role of a disabled older

People with developmental disabilities are not only coming out of hiding, they're also showing up on the big and small screens as casting directors discover the obvious: People with disabilities who have acting talent can actually play people with disabilities.

Levey says. "Rather than being disarmed, he disarmed everybody and went around the room giving hugs."

Over the years, Levey has cast actors who are deaf, blind, HIV-positive and developmentally disabled, with an eye on keeping it real. "Authenticity is an important part of good film and television," he says.

Levey cast Nick Weiland, 29, who has Down syndrome and is a Performing Arts Studio West client, in the role of Peter Fonda's son in an "ER" episode last season. Levey was impressed with the actor. "Nicholas was a delight on the set," he says. "He was prepared, open and flexible.

brother in a drama about a family of teenagers but ended up casting Zimmerman, who has Down syndrome, for the recurring role soon after he read, according to John Paizis, founder and director of the acting studio.

For Daley, acting has been a dream since he was a kid. He watched hundreds of TV shows and movies, imagining himself in countless roles. "When I was 10 or 11, I would imitate the people," he says. His goal was to become a professional actor, and his training at the studio, along with industry connections cultivated by Wynne, helped him snag his TV and movie roles.

"Nick was incredibly profes-

sional," says Liz Dean, casting director for the "Saving Grace" episode in which Daley worked with Oscar-winning actress Holly Hunter, the series' lead. "A lot of times actors will come in—these are actors without disabilities—who haven't memorized their lines, haven't made strong choices about the characters."

"Nick came with very strong choices about how the character was feeling at each moment. When I brought him in to read in front of the producers, he was even stronger. Rarely do you see someone get better for the producers. He's an actor who is well trained."

The ultimate goal for a casting director, Dean says, is finding the best actor for the role without regard to the performer's personal circumstances. Actors with disabilities have certain advantages in playing characters with similar disabilities. They don't have to worry about how to portray the actual physical or mental challenges. "They live it every day. So they can just act the role," she says. "It's always better to start with the actual disability. Otherwise, there's something that rings false."

In "Saving Grace" Daley played a mentally challenged young man with epilepsy who's suspected of murder. "I wasn't myself," he says. "I was a different person. It feels like you're on a different planet."

Paizis saw Daley's transformation into the character. "He was playing someone who was more low functioning than he actually is, someone more simplistic," Paizis says. On the set, he watched as Daley took a few minutes to concentrate. "He

just put his head down. Paused. When he came up, he was a different guy," he says. "I had goose bumps."

Paizis finds it troubling when "normal" actors play a character with a developmental disability. "It's difficult for me to watch," he says. "Almost always, they take on childlike aspects. In reality, these guys (with intellectual disabilities) work very, very hard to maintain an adult persona."

It's tough for anyone to break into show business, as shown by a 2003 report by the Screen Actors Guild. About 1,200 of the guild's 120,000 members have a disability of any sort, mental or physical. About one-third of those actors with disabilities reported working in a theatrical or television production that year. That's worse than the 73 percent of white, non-disabled actors who found work, but better than the 23 percent of non-disabled actors of color.

Even if the clients at Performing Arts Studio West and other studios don't get their big break, the hard work can have other, very practical benefits, says Gail Williamson, who founded the Web site Down Syndrome in Arts and Media. Her son gets acting training at Born to Act Players, a theater company for performers with or without disabilities. She says he gained self-confidence and improved his speech through his acting career, which began with a Procter & Gamble commercial when he was 10.

Self-confidence is a plus in any job market. "People with disabilities learn some amazing life skills through drama," Williamson says. "They learn body awareness. They learn to stay in the moment. They learn to listen so they respond appropriately. They use their speech. And all of these skills translate into any occupation, any social situation. They learn life skills to become employable people."

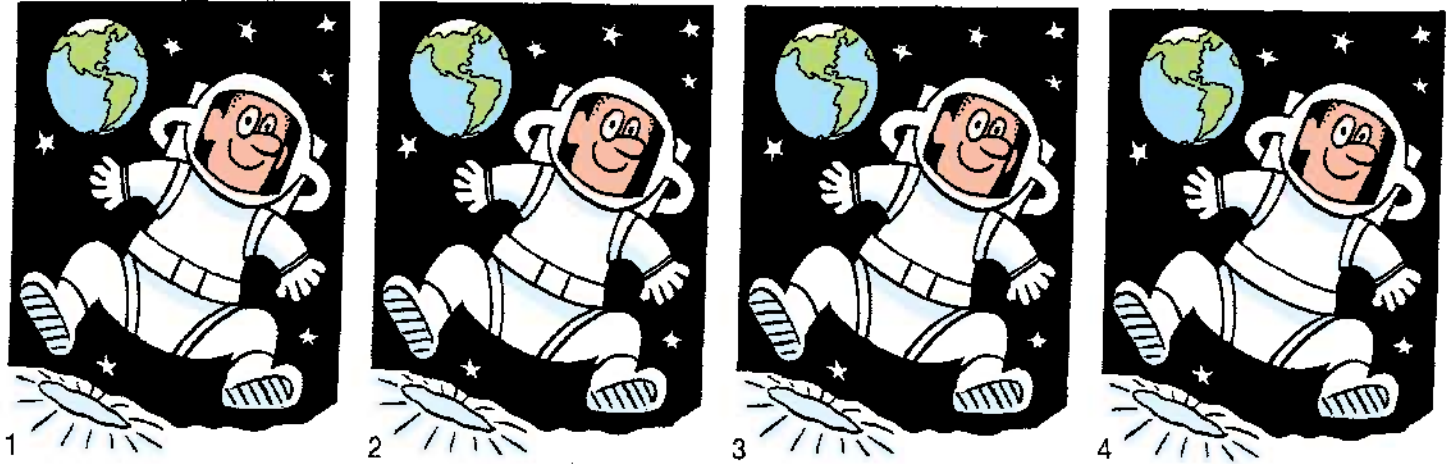
That's the goal. People who learn to listen, to show up on time and to speak up for themselves are more successful in jobs and in society, says Mike Danneker, executive director of the Westside Regional Center, part of the state system that funds programs for adults with autism, cerebral palsy and mental retardation. "Our push is to get people trained so they can take the next step to the real world, rather than keeping them in a workshop for 40 years," he says.

That might mean a program that concentrates on social skills or language skills. Or a more sheltered program in which people create jewelry or art to sell. Or it might mean a studio where people hone skills in acting, music and dance.



# Bob Weber Jr.'s Slylock Fox and COMICS for KIDS

Which two scenes are exactly alike?



Answer -- Numbers one and three.

Count Weirdly says he will not eat as long as he is in jail. Slylock Fox suspects this is not really Weirdly, but is an android created by the Count to take his place in jail. What will Slylock do in the coming days to test his suspicion?

Solution -- Slylock will weigh Weirdly each day. If Slylock is correct, the Count will not lose weight despite not eating.

Solve more Slylock Fox puzzles at [www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)



Find six differences between these panels.



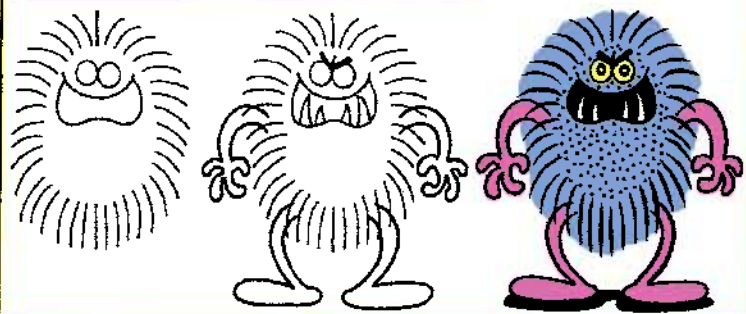
[www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)



Answer -- Moon, bone, dog's tail, whiskers, bucket and raccoon's eyes.

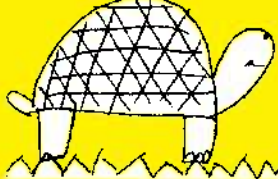
New! The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

## HOW TO DRAW a hairy monster



## YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific young artist is Skyler Rivera, age 8, of West Covina, CA



Send your drawing to [www.kidcartoonists.com](http://www.kidcartoonists.com)

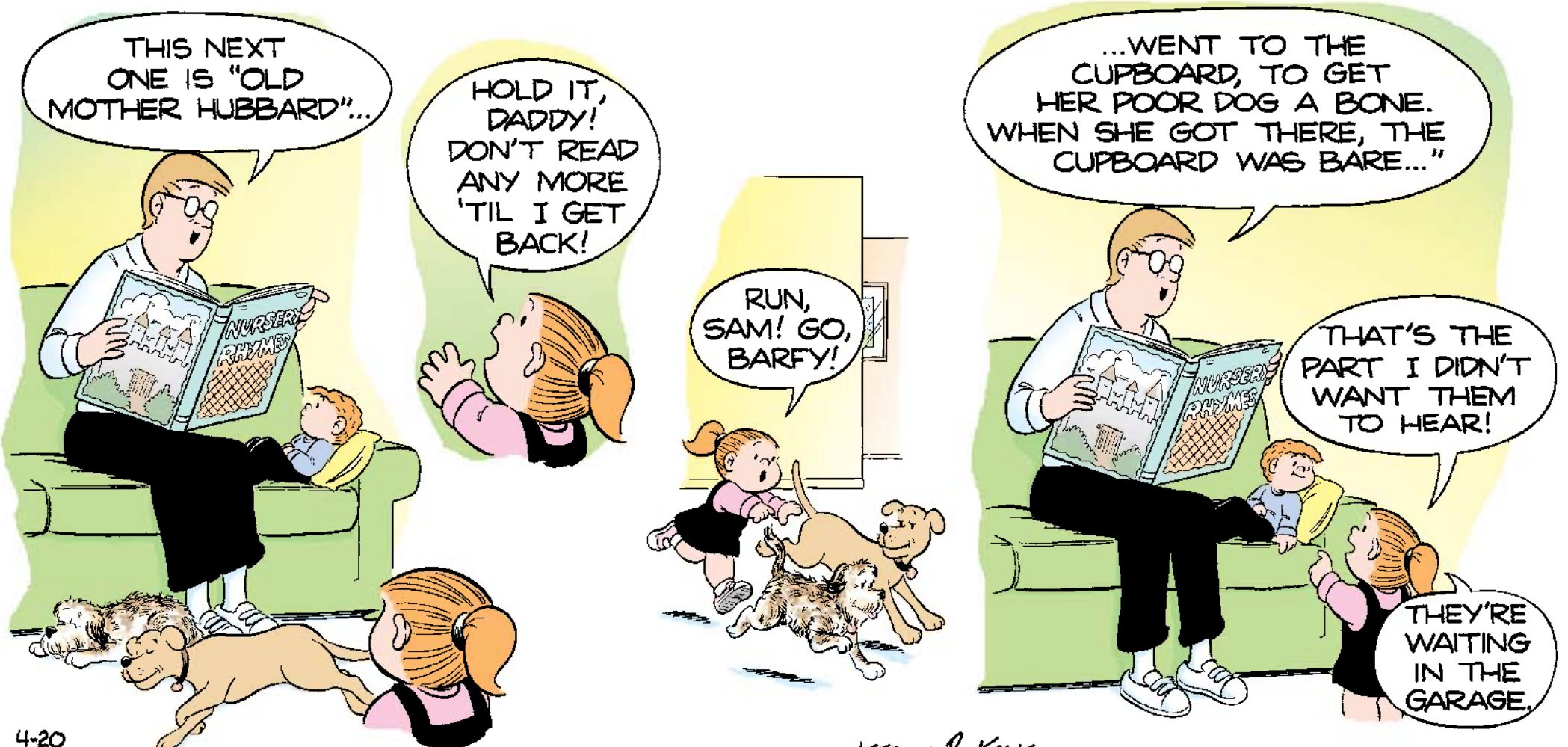
The scrambled words are things in the Slylock Fox panel. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) TIRUF
- 2) MSATE
- 3) KDSE
- 4) ASNKSERE

Answer -- 1) Fruit 2) Steam 3) Desk 4) Sneakers

# THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



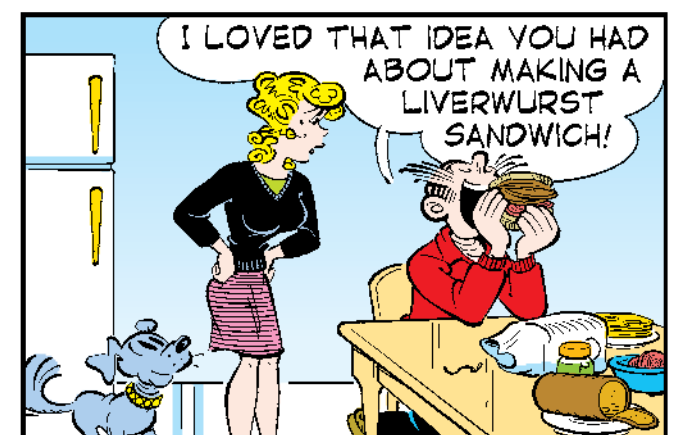
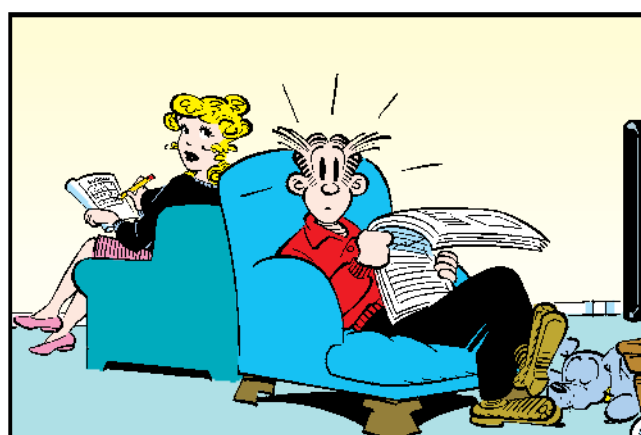
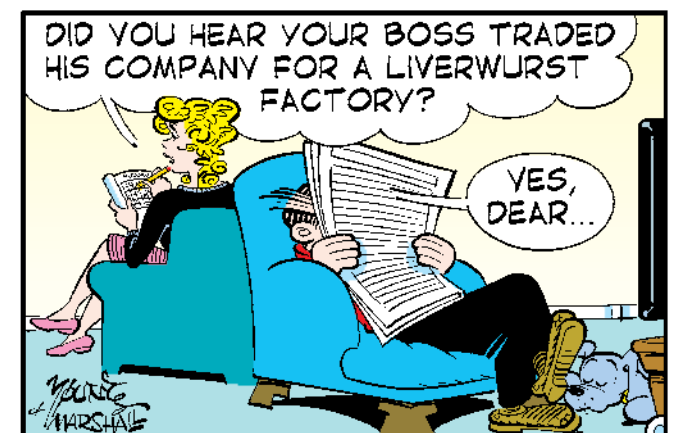
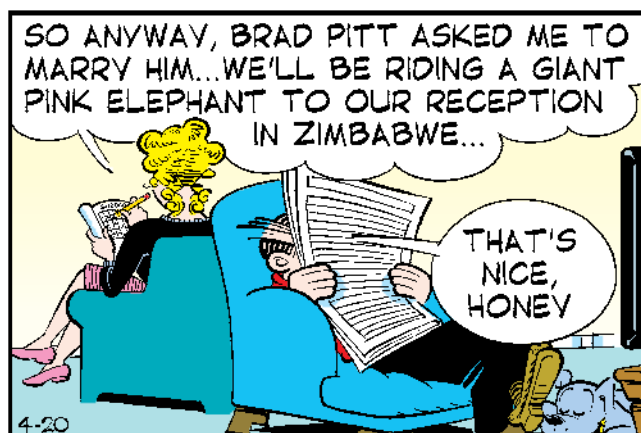
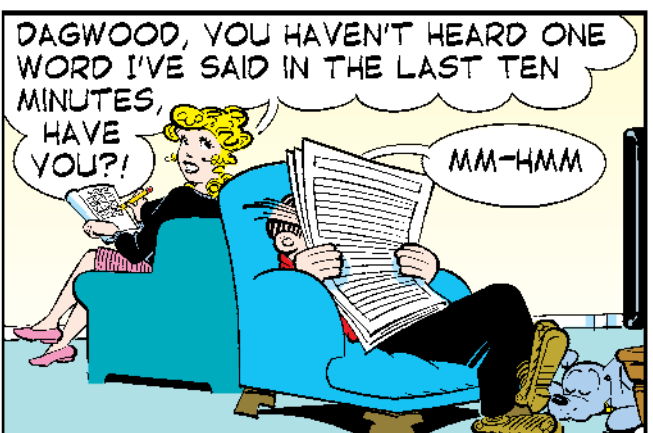
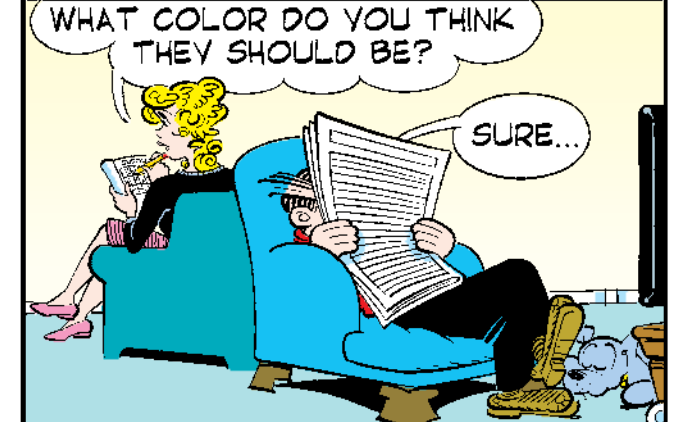
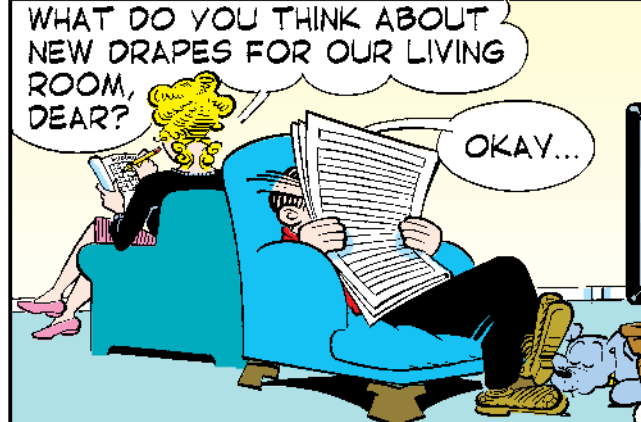
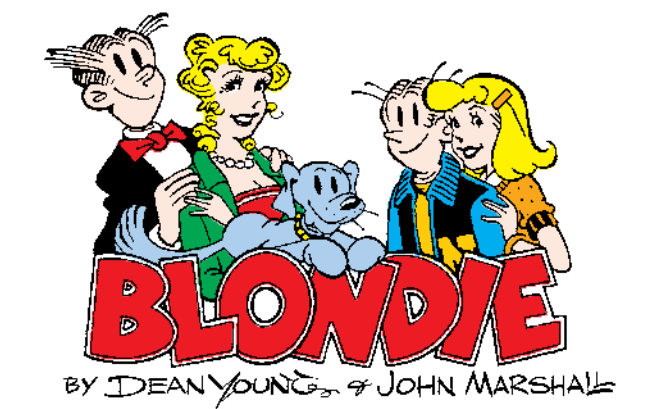
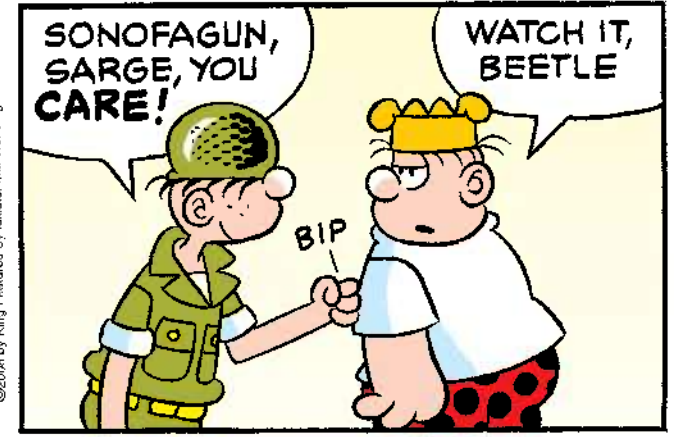
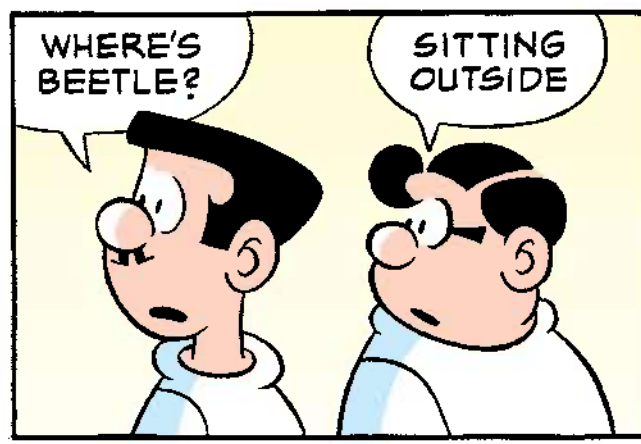
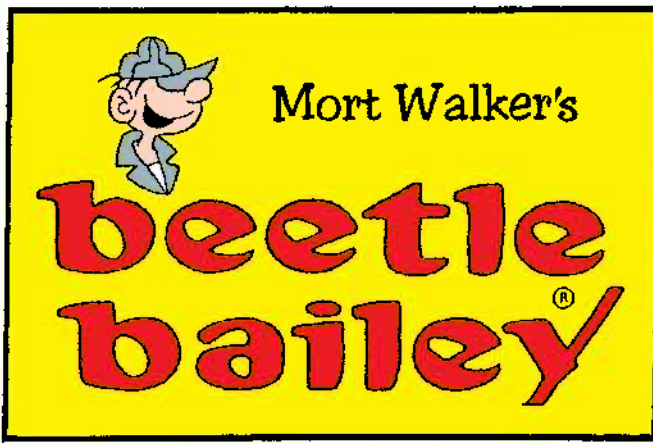
4-20

©2008 BILL KEANE INC., DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYND.

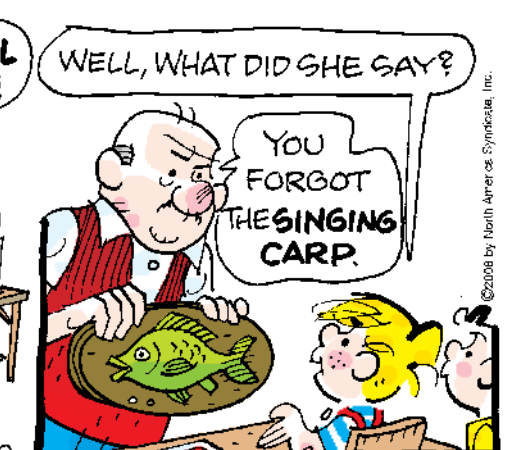
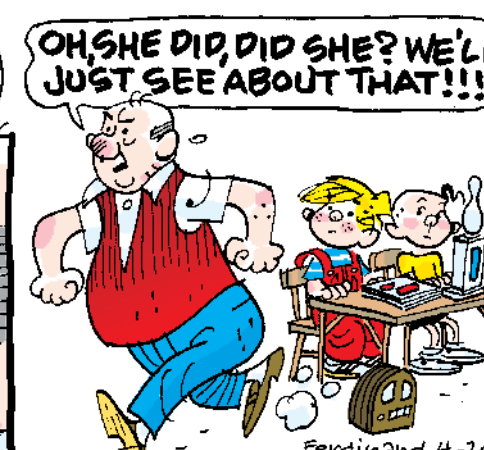
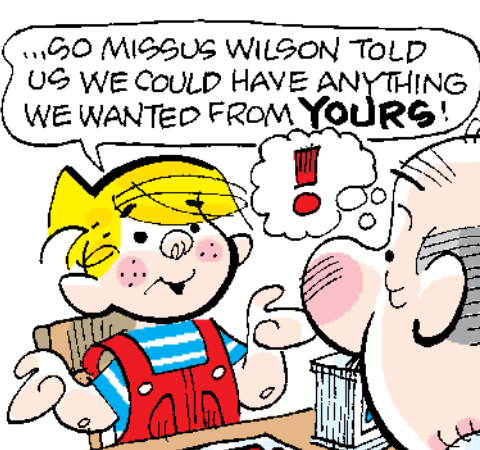
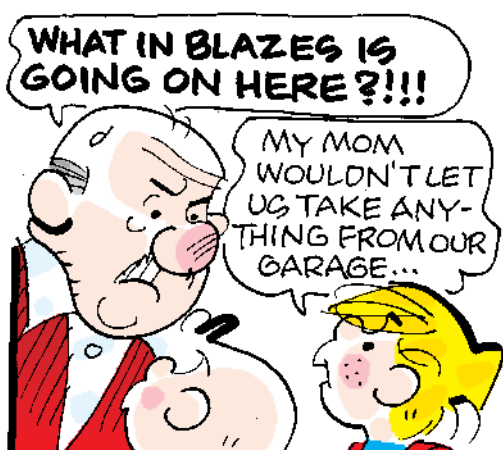
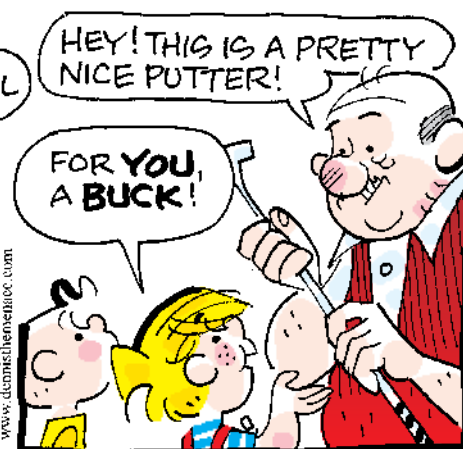
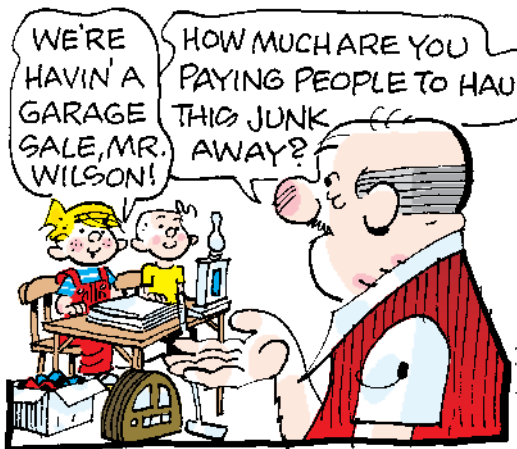
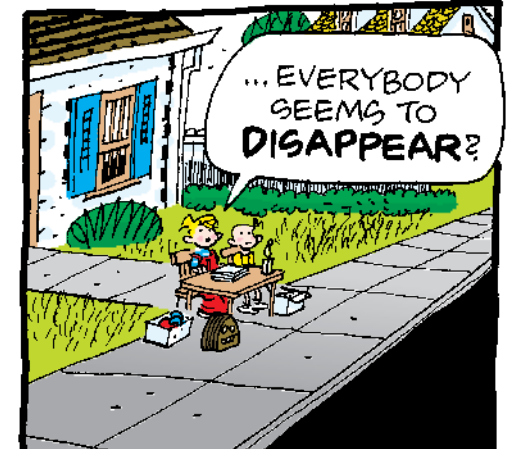
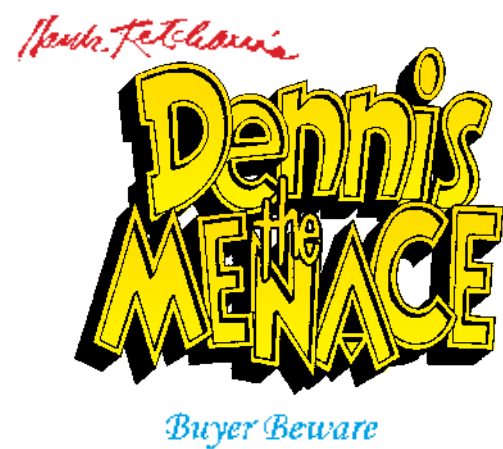
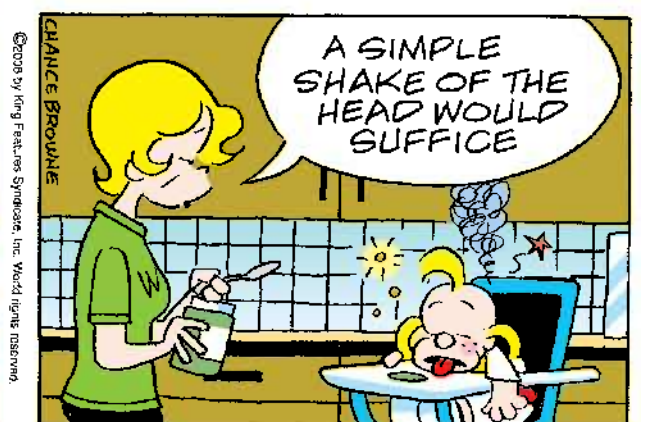
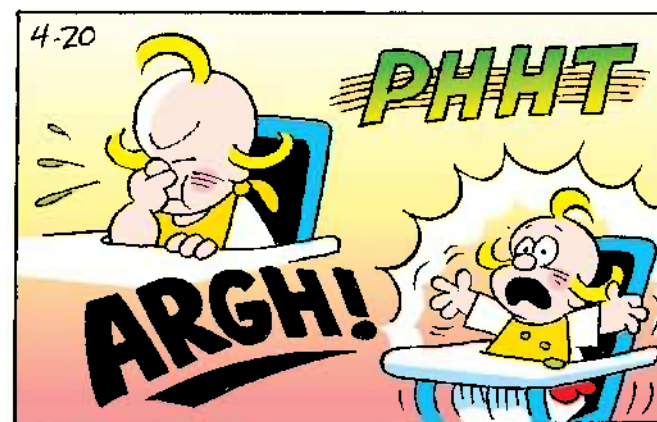
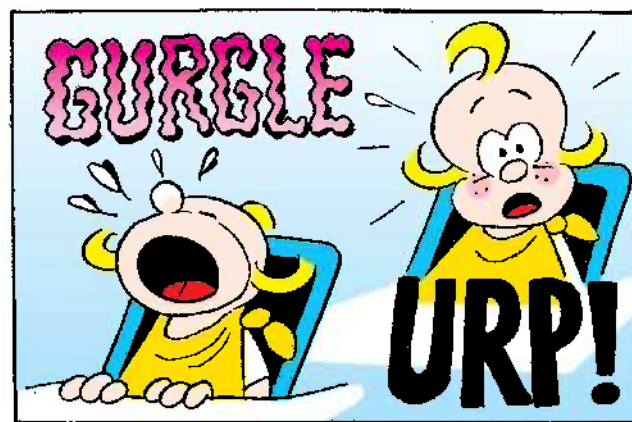
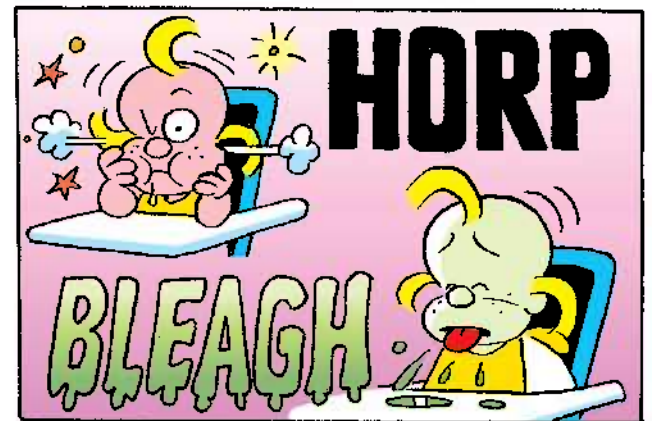
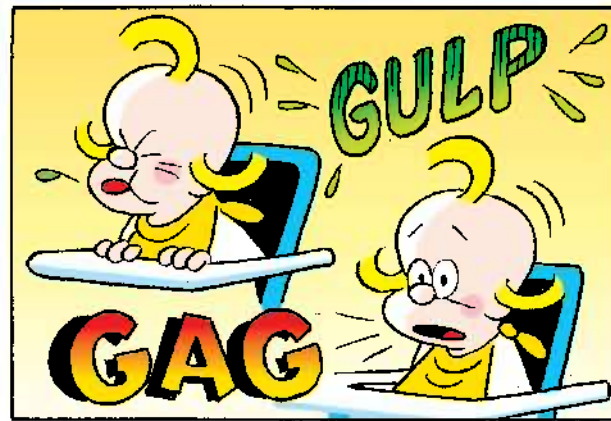
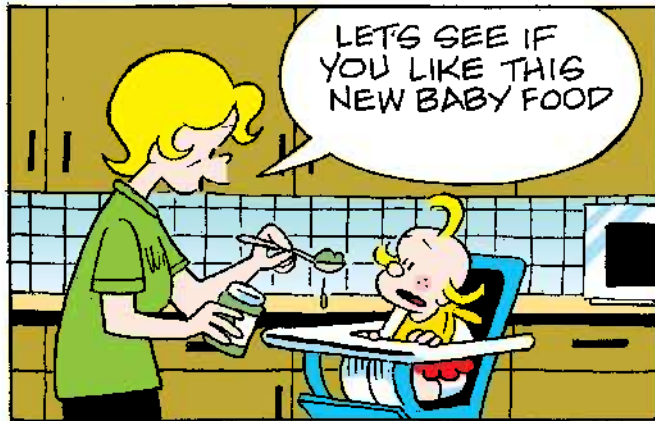
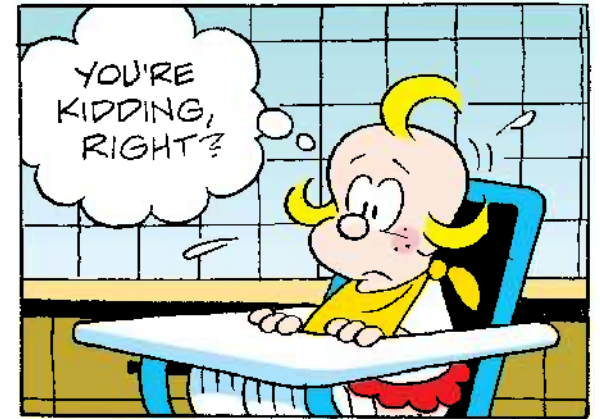
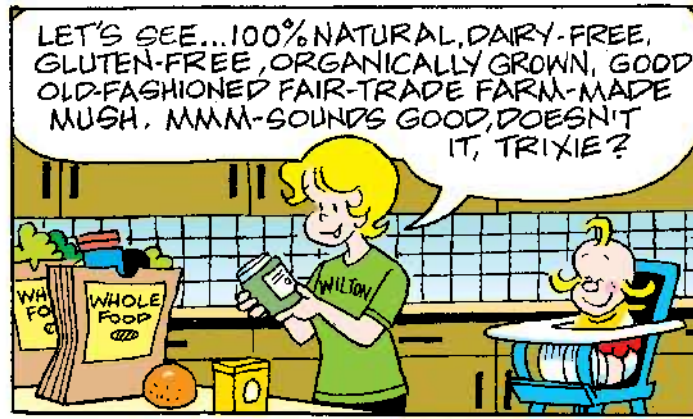
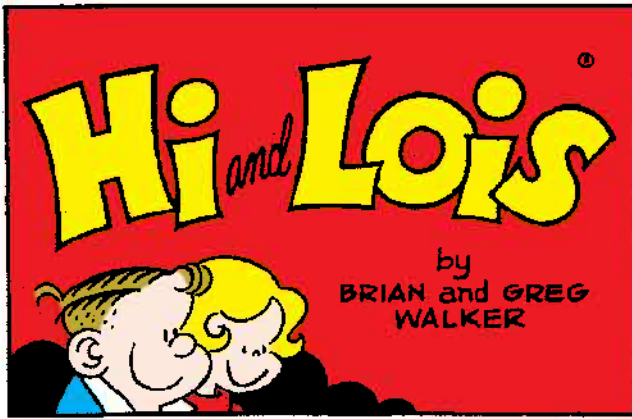
[WWW.FAMILYCIRCUS.COM](http://WWW.FAMILYCIRCUS.COM)

JEFF and Bill KEANE







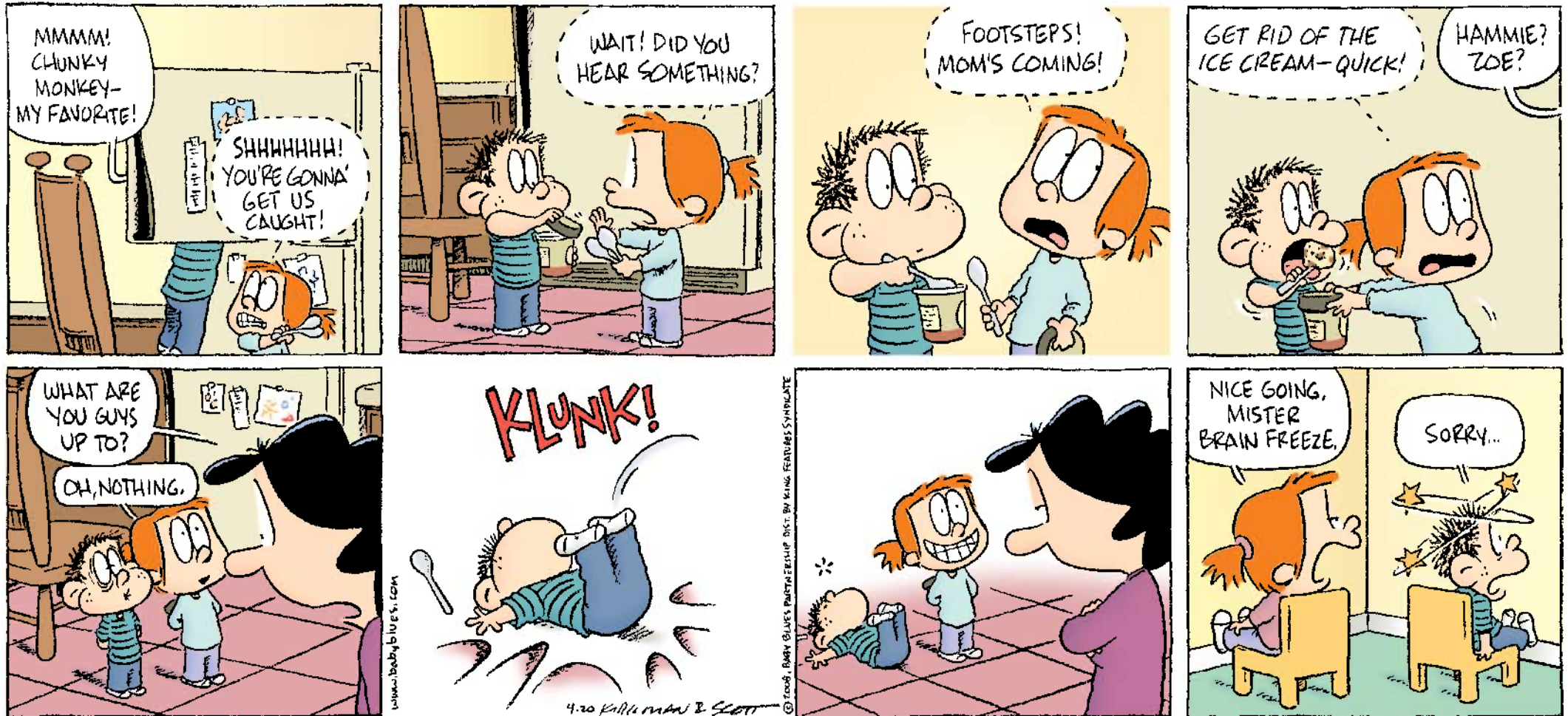


©2008 by North America Syndicate, Inc.



# BABY BLUES™

BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



## Salome's Stars

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A little woolgathering is OK. But don't let that dreamy state linger beyond midweek, when you'll want to be ready to take on new workplace responsibilities.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Love rules the week for single Bovines seeking romance. Attached pairs also find new joy in their relationships. Friday should bring news about a business opportunity.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Home becomes the center of a new social whirl, as you show your talent for hosting great parties. You can expect to impress a lot of people who've never seen this side of you.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) The Moon Child might have to raise those powers of persuasion a notch to get a still-wary colleague to agree to go along. Finding more facts to back up your position helps.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Hold off trying to fix the blame for an apparent mishandling of a work situation. A full investigation could reveal surprising facts on how and why it really happened.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Your ability to find details others might overlook gives you an advantage in assessing a possibly too-good-to-be-true offer. A trusted colleague has advice.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Expect to be called on once again to act as peacemaker in a long-simmering dispute that suddenly flares up. Offer advice, but be careful to stay out of the fray.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Your organizational skills help you line up your priorities so that you get things done without added pressure. The weekend could hold a special surprise.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) New ventures are favored. But don't launch yours before rechecking all facts and sources. Also, be sure you can rely on support from certain people.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Don't be pushed into renegotiating an agreement, even though it might help avoid a potential impasse. Get legal advice before you sign or agree to anything.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Helping others is what Aquarians do so well. But this time, someone wants to help you. Expect to hear some news that will both surprise and delight you.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Things go so swimmingly that you're tempted to take on more tasks. Best advice: Finish what you have now, then enjoy a well-earned relaxing weekend.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Your understanding of human nature helps you make wise decisions that are appreciated by all. You would make a fine judge.

© 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Was introduced to
- 4 Scoundrel
- 7 Poet Teasdale
- 8 Nonbeliever in altruism
- 10 Sense
- 11 Gum arabic
- 13 Falling sky fearer
- 16 Happy companion?
- 17 Bowlers' mecca
- 18 Fish eggs
- 19 Quite
- 20 Physicist Niels
- 21 Hotel staffers
- 23 Dry-heat bath
- 25 Region
- 26 Breather?
- 27 Cartoonist's supply
- 28 Hushed
- 30 America's Uncle
- 33 Candy often in thin sheets
- 36 Pact
- 37 Randy or Dennis
- 38 Bewildered
- 39 One
- 40 Knight's address
- 41 Still, in verse

### DOWN

- 1 Legerdemain
- 2 Idle or Clapton
- 3 Stopped the ballcarrier
- 4 Recurring sequence of events
- 5 Diarist Nin
- 6 Ref. bk.
- 7 Manhattan neighborhood
- 8 Shrewd
- 9 Small kin of the
- 10 Fraction adder's find (Abbr.)
- 12 Wahine's greeting
- 14 Dumbo's "wings"
- 15 Always
- 19 Compete
- 20 Computer invader
- 21 "Haystacks" painter
- 22 Turkey's capital
- 23 Litigant
- 24 It's nothing new
- 25 Energy
- 26 Tripoli's land
- 28 Somewhat (Pref.)
- 29 Say
- 30 Dry cleaner's concern
- 31 Settled down
- 32 Dr.'s field
- 34 Trawler gear
- 35 Melody

© 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.

## top ten

### Animated Movies\*

1. *The Lion King*
2. *Shrek*
3. *Monsters, Inc.*
4. *Toy Story 2*
5. *Aladdin*
6. *Toy Story*
7. *Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs*
8. *Ice Age*
9. *Tarzan*
10. *A Bug's Life*

Source: Digital Media

© 2008 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

### KING CROSSWORD LAST SUNDAY'S ANSWERS

BAD	ALTO	GAZE
ELI	TOAD	ONUS
DIS	PLACE	DENS
PLAN	BOWIE	
AFROS	SPEW	
CLOY	SQUANDER	
REV	SOURS	IRE
LXL	MPLAR	ASIA
ICLD	DUPLD	
DOGMA	PCR	
OLIO	DISPATCH	
ILLS	ORSO	EAU
TATA	WATT	DRT



# United States

## Benedict visits an American synagogue

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Pope Benedict XVI became the first pope to visit an American synagogue Friday, bringing greetings for the Passover holiday and accepting gifts of matzo and a seder plate. Benedict, 81, stopped briefly at Park East Synagogue on Manhattan's Upper East Side, near the Vatican residence.

"I find it moving to recall that Jesus, as a young boy, heard the words of Scripture and prayed in a place such as this," he said.

At a Roman Catholic church in Manhattan, the pope later warned other Christian leaders against "so-called prophetic actions" that conflict with traditional views of the Bible, a reference to the debate over Scripture that is fracturing churches in America and around the world.

In his visit to the synagogue, Benedict was shown the congregation's collection of parchment scrolls, and two youngsters presented him with the Passover gifts.

The German-born pontiff then offered a gift of his own: a reproduction of a Jewish codex.

"In our lifetime, we have experienced the ravages of war, the Holocaust, man's inhumanity to man and tasted the joy of freedom," said Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who lived in Nazi-

Pope Benedict XVI shakes hands with a man in the congregation as he departs after his visit to the Park East Synagogue, Friday, April 18, 2008 in New York. **AP**

occupied Eastern Europe.

"This momentous occasion takes places on American soil, where men and women escaping the clutches of oppression and religious persecution have built a nation of democracy and freedom. This is a nation which has allowed all religious communities to flourish."

The Jewish community makes "a valuable contribution to the life of the city," Benedict said. "And I encourage all of you to continue building bridges of friendship with all the many different ethnic and religious groups present in your neighborhood."

The visit was Benedict's second as pontiff to a Jewish house of worship. On his first papal trip abroad in 2005, Benedict entered a synagogue in Cologne, Germany, that had been destroyed by the Nazis and rebuilt.

At his visit with Christian leaders, the pontiff said allowing individual congregations to interpret the Gospel undermines evangelism at a time when "the world is losing its bearings" and needs "persuasive common witness" to salvation in Christ.



## Polygamous-sect kids ordered to stay in Texas state custody

**SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP)**—The more than 400 children taken from a ranch run by a polygamous sect will stay in state custody and be subject to genetic testing to sort out family relationships that have confounded welfare authorities, a judge ruled Friday.

State District Judge Barbara Walther heard 21 hours of testimony over two days before ruling that the children would be kept in custody while the state continues to investigate allegations of abuse stemming from the teachings of the Fundamental Church of Je-

sus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

"This is but the beginning," Walther said.

Individual hearings will be set for the children over the next several weeks, and the judge will determine whether they are moved into permanent foster care or can be returned to their parents. All hearings must be held by June 5.

Walther also ordered that all 416 children and parents be given genetic tests. Child welfare officials say they've had difficulty determining how the children and adults are related because of eva-

sive or changing answers.

A mobile genetic lab will take samples Monday at the main shelter where children are being kept; parents will be able to submit samples Tuesday in El-dorado, closer to the ranch.

The custody case is one of the largest and most convoluted in U.S. history. The ruling capped two days of marathon testimony that sometimes descended into chaos as hundreds of lawyers for the children and parents competed to defend their clients in two large rooms linked by a video feed.

## 5.2 quake rattles nerves across Midwest

**WEST SALEM, Ill. (AP)**—Bricks shook loose and fell from buildings. Walls cracked. Books tumbled off shelves.

A 5.2 magnitude earthquake centered near this southern Illinois town struck before dawn Friday, rocking skyscrapers in Chicago, 230 miles north of here, but doing little damage and seriously hurting no one.

It was the kind of tremor that might be ignored in earthquake-savvy California, but the temblor shook things up from Nebraska to Atlanta and rattled nerves in Milwaukee, Cincinnati and Louisville, Ky., where bricks toppled to the pavement.

"We thought it (the house) was falling on us, we really did," said 85-year-old Anna Mae Williams, who was shaken awake at 4:37 a.m. in tiny West Salem, six miles from the epicenter.

Dozens of aftershocks followed, including one with a magnitude of 4.6.

The quake is believed to have involved an extension of the New Madrid fault, a network of deep cracks in the earth's surface, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The fault is at the center of the nation's most active seismic zone east of the Rockies, something that's known to Midwest residents, even if they forget it now and then—the last severe earthquake in the region was a 5.0 magnitude quake in 2002.


### ACROSS THE NATION

#### FAA sets up high-level alerts for missed airline inspections

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The Federal Aviation Administration is going to begin alerting its top headquarters officials when field inspectors miss airline safety inspections, Transportation Secretary Mary Peters announced Friday. Peters also demanded that the FAA and American Airlines explain to her within 14 days why 250,000 U.S. air travelers endured canceled flights last week. American grounded its MD-80 jetliners and canceled 3,100 flights in order to inspect or redo wiring that was supposed to have been completed between Sept. 5, 2006, and March 5, 2008. "No one at all was well served by what happened last week," Peters told a news conference outside FAA headquarters.

#### Lucky dog! Adrift pooch is plucked from Pacific isle

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Snickers the Sea Dog is barely more than a pup, but he's already an old salt. The 8-month-old pooch spent three months adrift in the Pacific with his owners and a parrot until their 48-foot sailboat ran aground in December on tiny Fanning Island, 1,000 miles south of Hawaii. Snickers and Gulliver had to be left behind as their owners hitched a ride on a cargo vessel. Then in March, the SOS was sent out in a boating journal that the orphaned critters were to be destroyed on Fanning, one of 33 scattered coral atolls that make up the remote island nation of Kiribati. As word spread, a bevy of people worked to rescue the cocker spaniel and the macaw, including a man who desperately wants to adopt them: retired Las Vegas resident Jack Joslin. On April 9, Norwegian Cruise Line workers rescued Snickers from Fanning and dropped him off on Oahu island, Hawaii, where he will remain in quarantine until he is flown to Los Angeles. Hawaiian Airlines, moved by the dog's survival story, has given the go-ahead on flying the animal for free to the mainland, said Peter Forman, a Hawaii-based airlines historian who helped negotiate Snickers' transport. Forman said he expects Snickers to arrive sometime in the next three days.



**Northern Marianas College**  
**Procurement & Property Management**  
 Office P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.  
 Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601  
 E-mail: [procurement@nmcnet.edu](mailto:procurement@nmcnet.edu) Website: [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu)

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP 08-011**

**Litigation and Legal Counseling Services**

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for litigation and legal counseling services for the institution. Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.** There may be a fee when picking up a package. Please call 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 for information regarding fees.


**Proposal Packages are due no later than 4:00 p.m., April 21st, 2008,** Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available to local vendors in this procurement. **For Proposers located outside of the CNMI:** You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Duane R.T. Sablan ([duanes@nmcnet.edu](mailto:duanes@nmcnet.edu)).

All Proposers are hereby notified that the Northern Marianas College will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

Approved by the following:  
 /s/ Duane R.T. Sablan  
 Acting, NMC Procurement Officer

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges



**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
 P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950  
 Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 Fax: (670) 234-7144 or 235-7147  
 Email: [administration@cda.gov.mp](mailto:administration@cda.gov.mp) Website: [www.cda.gov.mp](http://www.cda.gov.mp)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**April 20, 2008**

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DIVISION (DCD) OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY THRU ITS CHAIRWOMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE DCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WAKIN'S BUILDING, CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

**AGENDA**

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
  1. November 15, 2007
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. REPORTS
  1. Financial Report – DCD
  2. Loan Reports
    - a. Approved Loans & Bank Guarantees
    - b. Bank Guarantees Status Report
    - c. Loan Status/Receivables Report
    - d. DCD Performing Loan Summary/Delinquency & Litigation
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Borrowers' Requests, Updates & Recommendations
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
  1. House Bill 16-52
  2. New Borrowers' Requests
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS
  1. Apartment/Commercial Building Listing
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE  
 Chairwoman, DCD Board of Directors



# Asia

## Typhoon hits China's Hainan

**GUANGZHOU, China (AP)**—Typhoon Neoguri weakened into a tropical storm Friday after hitting China's southern island province of Hainan, where 120,000 people fled low-lying areas and thousands more were stranded at an airport, state-run media reported.

The typhoon—the first to threaten China this year - began lashing the city of Wenchang on Hainan's northeast coast late Friday night. Xinhua News Agency reported it blacked out the city but Neoguri, which means “raccoon” in Korean, had been packing winds of 75 mph before weakening to tropical storm strength at 67 mph.

The storm was on course to hit southern Guangdong province with a weakening force and heavy rains Saturday afternoon, Xinhua said.

The agency reported 18 fish-

ermen out of 56 who had sought shelter on a reef off Hainan's coast remained missing. The other 38 had been rescued. As the storm approached Hainan, officials ordered 21,800 fishing boats to seek safe places, Xinhua said.

About 3,000 passengers were stranded at the airport in the provincial capital, Haikou, after 76 flights were canceled because of Neoguri, the report said.

Hainan is famous for its beaches, resorts, orchards and fishing industry.

The last time China faced a typhoon so early in the season was before 1949, Chen Lei, a flood relief official, was quoted as saying by Xinhua.

Strong gales caused the cancellation of ferries across the Qiongzhou Strait between Hainan and Guangdong early Friday, the agency reported.

## Ex-PR justice chief charged with four criminal offenses

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's close ally and former justice secretary was charged Friday with four criminal offenses including graft and extortion.

Hernando Perez, his wife and two business associates were accused of extorting US\$2 million (€1.26 million) from businessman and former Rep. Mark Jimenez while Perez was justice secretary.

The charges stem from Jimenez' allegations in 2002 that Perez demanded US\$2 million in exchange for him not being compelled to testify against people close to ousted President Joseph Estrada, who was accused of corruption and forced out of office in 2001.

Jimenez was also a close associate of Estrada during

his presidency.

Perez was also accused of violating the code of conduct for public officials and falsification of asset statements for failure to disclose his wife's deposit of US\$1.7 million (€1.07 million) in a Swiss bank.

Perez and his wife called the charges by the Office of the Ombudsman, a government anti-graft body, “prejudicial and inadmissible hearsays.”

The charge sheet said Perez, his wife Rosario, his brother-in-law Ramon Arceo and business associate Ernest Escaler allegedly threatened to have Jimenez incarcerated “in a city jail where he will die of boils with hardened criminals and drug addicts” if he refused to testify against Estrada's cronies or pay the extortion demand.

## RP hospital proposes penalties for staff in videotaped surgery

**MANILA, Philippines**—A Philippine hospital recommended penalties Friday, including possible dismissal, for three doctors and a nurse who conducted a rowdy operation on a patient that was videotaped and posted on YouTube.

The unidentified doctors and nurses from the central Philippine city of Cebu have been condemned by medical associations. Health Secretary Francisco Duque III has ordered an investigation.

The Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center in Cebu, where the operation to remove an object from the patient's rectum took

place Jan. 3, recommended filing administrative cases against the four personnel, with penalties ranging from reprimands to dismissals for violating a code of conduct and ethical standards.

Medical center spokesman Dr. Emmanuel Gines said the government-run hospital can only recommend penalties to the Health Department and cannot take action on its own.

The nearly 3-minute video of a noisy operating room shows doctors and nurses laughing, giggling and cheering. At one point, a hand appears with a cell phone camera taking a close-up picture of the surgery.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Bus plunges into ravine in Philippines, killing 9 and injuring 20

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—A passenger bus plunged into a ravine in the northern Philippines on Friday, killing nine people and injuring more than 20, police said. Senior Inspector Reulito Barcelo said the brakes on the bus apparently malfunctioned as it was negotiating a sharp curve on an unpaved highway in Pantabangan town in Nueva Ecija province. The bus crashed into a 25-meter (82-foot) -deep ravine. Four women and five men were killed in the accident, Barcelo told The Associated Press. He said at least 20 other passengers, including a 5-year-old child, were brought to hospitals. Barcelo said it was not clear how many people had been on the bus because some of the injured were taken to hospitals by passing cars before police arrived. The driver of the bus was injured and the bus conductor could not be found, said Senior Police Officer Rocky Garcia of the Nueva Ecija provincial police headquarters.

#### East Timor shaken by strong earthquake

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—A powerful earthquake rocked part of East Timor Saturday, a meteorological official said. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The U.S. Geological Survey put the tremor at a magnitude 6.0, while the Indonesian Geophysics Agency registered a more powerful 6.4. The agencies said it struck 55 miles north of the capital, Dili, at a depth of 7 miles. Witnesses said people fled outdoors in panic.

#### Dutch defense chief's son is killed in Afghanistan

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)**—The son of the Dutch defense chief was killed Friday by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan, and the Taliban claimed they deliberately made the young lieutenant a high-profile target. While the Dutch quickly cast doubt on the Taliban claim, the death underscores the danger high-profile soldiers can face and illustrates a grim reality for families, famous and not, who choose the military life. Lt. Dennis van Uhm, 23, was one of two Dutch soldiers killed in the explosion seven miles northwest of Camp Holland, the Dutch military base in the restive southern province of Uruzgan. Two more soldiers were injured, one critically.

# Across The Globe

## Basra's 'dark ages' lifting as hardline grip weakens

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—CD shops sell love songs again. Some women emerge from their homes without veils, and alcohol sellers are coming out of hiding in the southern city of Basra—where religious vigilantes have long enforced strict Islamic codes.

The changes in recent weeks mark a surprising show of government sway—at least for now—after an Iraqi-led military crackdown that was plagued by desertions, ragged planning and ended in a virtual stalemate with Shiite militias in Iraq's second-largest city.

But it's unclear whether the new tone in parts of Basra represents a permanent tilt toward the Iraqi government or just a temporary retreat of Shiite hard-liners challenging the current Baghdad leadership.

During five days of heavy fighting last month, Iraqi troops struggled against militiamen, particularly the Mahdi Army loyal to anti-U.S. cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. The military was plagued by desertions and poor organization - and, in the end, the offensive was inconclusive with Iran helping mediate a truce.

Still, the crackdown appears to have succeeded in giving some sense of government control in Basra.

Two Associated Press employees in Basra interviewed several shopkeepers and other



Iraqis shop for dvd's in Basra, Iraq, 550 kilometers (340 miles) southeast of Baghdad, Friday, April 18, 2008.

residents on the lifting of some lifestyle restrictions imposed by Shiite hard-liners. The AP also toured four districts around the city to observe the recent changes.

For years, militiamen and vigilantes have had nearly a free hand in Basra. They intimidated, attacked and sometimes

killed residents who broke the strict social rules in the city - once known for its liberal lifestyles and nightlife.

Walid Khalid had to stop selling alcohol in 2005 after gunmen snatched his brother from their home and dumped him hours later in the street with gunshots to both legs.

## Brazil police arrest dead girl's parents

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP)**—The father and stepmother of a 5-year-old girl allegedly thrown from a sixth-floor apartment window were arrested Friday, Brazilian police said.

Alexandre Nardoni, 29, and his wife, Anna Carolina Jato, 24, may face homicide charges in the death of Isabella de Oliveira Nardoni, police inspector Aldo Galeano told Brazil's Globo TV network.

The two will remain in jail while prosecutors decide whether to bring formal charges

against them in an indictment, the next step in Brazil's legal process.

Isabella Nardoni died March 29 after falling from her father's sixth-floor Sao Paulo apartment. Her death became a front-page scandal that has riveted the nation.

Police, who found a hole cut in a safety screen on one of the windows, believe Isabella was thrown from the apartment - but don't know if she died before or after the fall.

Preliminary tests on her neck and lungs indicate she

may have been strangled, and blood was found in her room, police said.

Alexandre Nardoni told police that an intruder had killed his daughter. He said he left her on her bed while he went downstairs to the parking lot to help his wife and other two children. He said he locked the apartment, but she was gone when he returned.

Neighbors told police they heard a girl yelling “Stop, dad!” shortly before Isabella was found dead on the lawn below the apartment.

## Mexico military helicopter crash kills 11

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—A military helicopter crashed in western Mexico on Friday, killing 11 soldiers and seriously injuring another, the Defense Department said.

The soldiers, including an army major, were on their way to raid a marijuana field when their helicopter lost strength

and crashed outside the city of Uruapan in the western state of Michoacan, the department said in a news release.

It said only one soldier survived, and he was flown to a military hospital in Mexico City where he is in serious condition.

The department said it is inves-

tigating what caused the crash.

President Felipe Calderon has sent more than 20,000 soldiers and federal agents to several states, including Michoacan, to battle powerful drug cartels that have been fighting each other for territory. Drug-related violence has left thousands dead over the past few years.



# Focus



In a photo provided by NASA, new stars peek out from beneath a blanket of dust in this image of the Rho Ophiuchi dark cloud from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope. Called "Rho Oph" by astronomers, it's one of the closest star-forming regions to our own solar system, about 407 light years away from Earth. Rho Oph is a complex made up of a large main cloud of molecular hydrogen, a key molecule allowing new stars to form from cold cosmic gas, with two long streamers trailing off in different directions. The colors in this image reflect the relative temperatures and evolutionary states of the various stars. The youngest stars are surrounded by dusty disks of gas from which they, and their potential planetary systems, are forming. These young disk systems show up as red in this image. Some of these young stellar objects are surrounded by their own compact nebulae. More evolved stars, which have shed their natal material, are blue.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—A telescope arms race is taking shape around the world. Astronomers are drawing up plans for the biggest, most powerful instruments ever constructed, capable of peering far deeper into the universe—and further back in time—than ever before.

The building boom, which is expected to play out over the next decade and cost billions of dollars, is being driven by technological advances that afford unprecedented clarity and magnification. Some scientists say it will be much like switching from regular TV to high-definition.

In fact, the super-sized telescopes will yield even finer pictures than the Hubble Space Telescope, which was put in orbit in 1990 and was long considered superior because its view was freed from the distorting effects of Earth's atmosphere. But now, land-based telescopes can correct for such distortion.

Just the names of many of the proposed observatories suggest an arms race: the Giant Magellan Telescope, the Thirty Meter Telescope and the European Extremely Large Telescope, which was downsized from the Overwhelmingly Large Telescope. Add to those three big ground observatories a new super eye in the sky, NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, scheduled for launch in 2013.

With these proposed giant telescopes, astronomers hope to get the first pictures of planets outside our solar system, watch stars and planets being born, and catch a glimpse of what was happening near the birth of the universe.

"We know almost nothing about the universe in its early stages," said Carnegie Observatories director Wendy Freedman, who chairs the board that is building the Giant Magellan Telescope. "The GMT is going to see in action the first stars, the first galaxies, the first supernovae, the first black holes to form."

When scientists look at a faraway celestial object, they are seeing it as it existed millions and millions of years

## Eyes to the skies getting bigger

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP SCIENCE WRITER

ago, because it takes so long for light from the object to reach Earth.

Current telescopes are able to look back only about 1 billion years in time. But the new telescopes will be so powerful that they should be able to gaze back to a couple of hundred million years after the Big Bang, which scientists believe happened 13.7 billion years ago. That's where all the action is.

"We hope to answer these questions: Are we alone in the universe? What is the nature of dark matter and dark energy in the universe?" said astronomer Henri Boffin, outreach scientist for the European Southern Observatory.

Two new technologies enable this extraordinary quest—one reliant on modern lasers and computing power and the other inspired by ancient Greek and Roman tilework.

The first is adaptive optics. It allows telescopes on the ground to get rid of the distortion caused when looking through Earth's thick atmosphere into space.

Adaptive optics relies on a laser to create an artificial star, or a constellation of fake stars, in the sky. Astronomers then examine the fake stars and use computers to calculate how much atmospheric distortion there is at any given time. Then they adjust the mirrors to compensate like a pair of eyeglasses. This adjustment happens automatically hundreds of times per second.

Adaptive optics worked first for smaller telescopes. But getting it to work for big observatories was a problem. The first successful use in large

telescopes was in 2003 at the twin-telescope Keck Observatory in Hawaii, an effort that took nine years.

The second breakthrough involves technology that makes bigger mirrors possible. Instead of casting a giant mirror in one piece, which is difficult and limits size, astronomers now make smaller mirror segments and piece them together.

Keck scientist Jerry Nelson, now working on the Thirty Meter Telescope, pioneered this technique and said he got the idea from looking at how the Greeks and Romans tiled their baths. This technique is going from 36 segments in current telescopes to 492

nas, Chile, around 2016. The plan is for an 80-foot mirror. The cost is around \$500 million.

■ **The Thirty Meter Telescope.** The California Institute of Technology, the University of California and the Association of Canadian Universities for Research in Astronomy are aiming for a telescope with about a 98-foot mirror by 2018. No site has been chosen. The cost is about \$780 million.

■ **The European Extremely Large Telescope.** A partnership of European countries called the European Southern Observatory already has telescopes in Chile and is aiming for a new one with a mirror of 138 feet, scaled back from initial plans of 328 feet. The Europeans are aiming for a 2018 completion, but have not chosen a specific location yet. The cost would be \$1.17 billion.

The managers of these projects are fairly confident they will get the money they need to complete their grand visions. However, some astronomers worry that there may not be enough private or government money for all of them, so they find themselves competing for funding, even as they cheer each other on.

If completed, ESO's European Extremely Large Telescope would be the biggest of the new observatories and should be able to see 20 to 100 times more sharply than the current best land-based telescopes. The Hubble, which set the standard for stunning astronomical pictures, will seem less amazing.

"Oh, you ain't seen nothing yet,"

said 2006 Nobel Prize-winning physicist John Mather, senior project scientist for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope.

The \$4.5 billion Webb Telescope, designed to travel 900,000 miles beyond Earth's orbit, is not faced with the atmospheric distortion of ground telescopes. Still, it will use its own version of adaptive optics. Because of temperature fluctuations in the cold of space, the telescope will have to adjust the shape of its mirrors automatically. Webb's mirror, which is 2 1/2 times bigger than Hubble's, has 18 segments.

While places like Arizona and Hawaii have been successful sites for high-quality space images, Chile is the focal point of the next-generation building boom.

Both the Thirty Meter and European telescope are looking at several sites there although the Thirty Meter team is also considering Baja Mexico and Hawaii. What's needed is the right combination of atmospheric conditions, weather, high altitude, prevailing winds and dark skies.

But there is more in the works than just the super-sized scopes. Smaller, more specialized telescopes are in various stages of design and construction.

The \$400 million Large Synoptic Survey Telescope to be built in Chile by 2014 would survey the sky, constantly shooting a movie of 20 billion objects in the cosmos and spotting targets for bigger telescopes.

A planned project in Hawaii would be on the lookout for "killer asteroids." And in Chile, dozens of high-precision antennas are being erected for a huge radio astronomy observatory, called ALMA, that would look into the universe in a different way.

It is the biggest observatories in the works, however, that will provide the dramatic change in astronomical pictures. The pictures to come, Nelson said of the Thirty Meter project, will "knock your socks off, faint stuff that Hubble can't see."

### ON THE NET

Thirty Meter Telescope: <http://www.tmt.org>

Giant Magellan Telescope: <http://www.gmto.org>

European Extremely Large Telescope:

<http://www.eso.org/public/astronomy/projects/e-elt.html>

James Webb Space Telescope: <http://www.jwst.nasa.gov>

segments with his new project.

In astronomy, the bigger the mirror, the greater the amount of light that can be grabbed from the universe. For the past decade and a half, the Keck has had the largest Earth-bound telescopes, with mirrors nearly 33 feet in diameter.

However, three giant land observatories, proposed for construction within the decade, are going to dwarf those:

■ **The Giant Magellan Telescope.** A partnership of six U.S. universities, an Australian college, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and the Carnegie Institution of Washington will place the telescope in Las Campa-



# Life & Style

## Parents, kids at odds on who's Mr., Mrs. Right

By SHANKAR VEDANTAM  
© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

From "Romeo and Juliet" to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," literature, art and the movies have long found inspiration in the conflicts between parents and their offspring over whom the young people should marry.

Just in time for spring weddings, scientists decided to put what has become an entertainment cliché to an empirical test. Do young people and their parents really disagree about the qualities of a suitable mate?

In a study involving Dutch, American and Kurdish students, psychologists in the Netherlands found that the cliché is, in fact, true. Young Americans told the researchers that qualities they would find unappealing in a potential mate included low intelligence and physical unattractiveness. But they said their parents would object to a mate who was of a different ethnicity, was poor or lacked a good family background.

The responses of Dutch and Kurdish students were similar in that young people invariably considered the potential mate's attractiveness the most important quality, whereas parents uniformly paid more attention to the suitors' social background or group affiliation—race, religious background and social class.

Shakespeare and Hollywood can duke it out about whether the young people or their parents are right—"Romeo and Juliet" sided with the young people, whereas a number of recent books and movies have essentially taken the view that "Mom knows best"—but the interesting question from a sci-

entific perspective is why this conflict occurs at all.

Abraham P. Buunk, Justin H. Park and Shelli L. Dubbs at the University of Groningen, who recently published their findings in the *Review of General Psychology*, said the consistency of the conflict across cultures suggests the hand of evolution: Parents and offspring clash, the researchers argued, because their genetic self-interests, while overlapping, are not identical.

The reason young people care so much about intellectual and physical attractiveness, the scientists suggested, is that these characteristics are markers of genetic fitness. By contrast, they said, parents care about group affiliations because parents are primarily interested in whether an incoming member of the family is likely to make a good parent—and a good all-around team player.

When a potential mate has both sets of qualities, parents and young people are likely to agree on the appropriateness of a match. But often, the researchers said, the qualities don't go hand in hand: The tall, dark and handsome guy might make the bride swoon but turn out to have a roving eye, whereas the bald and bespectacled fellow might never be a GQ model but could make a great dad and caregiver.

"When it comes to mating, the key is that the kinds of mates who score high on 'good genes' traits"—such as attractiveness, sense of humor—"tend to score low on 'good parent' traits, and vice versa," said Park, a social psychologist who studies relationships.

As with many aspects of evolution, the process by which parents and offspring reach their different conclusions is not a

conscious one. Young people don't explicitly check with their genes about what to do; rather, their genes predispose them to find certain characteristics appealing, just as genes predispose parents to find other characteristics more suitable.

While acknowledging the role of biology in shaping human behavior, historian Stephanie Coontz argues that the researchers did not draw a clear enough distinction between love and marriage. Evolution might play a big role in shaping the reproductive drive, she says, but it would be a mistake to think that the institution of marriage has primarily been about either love or reproduction.

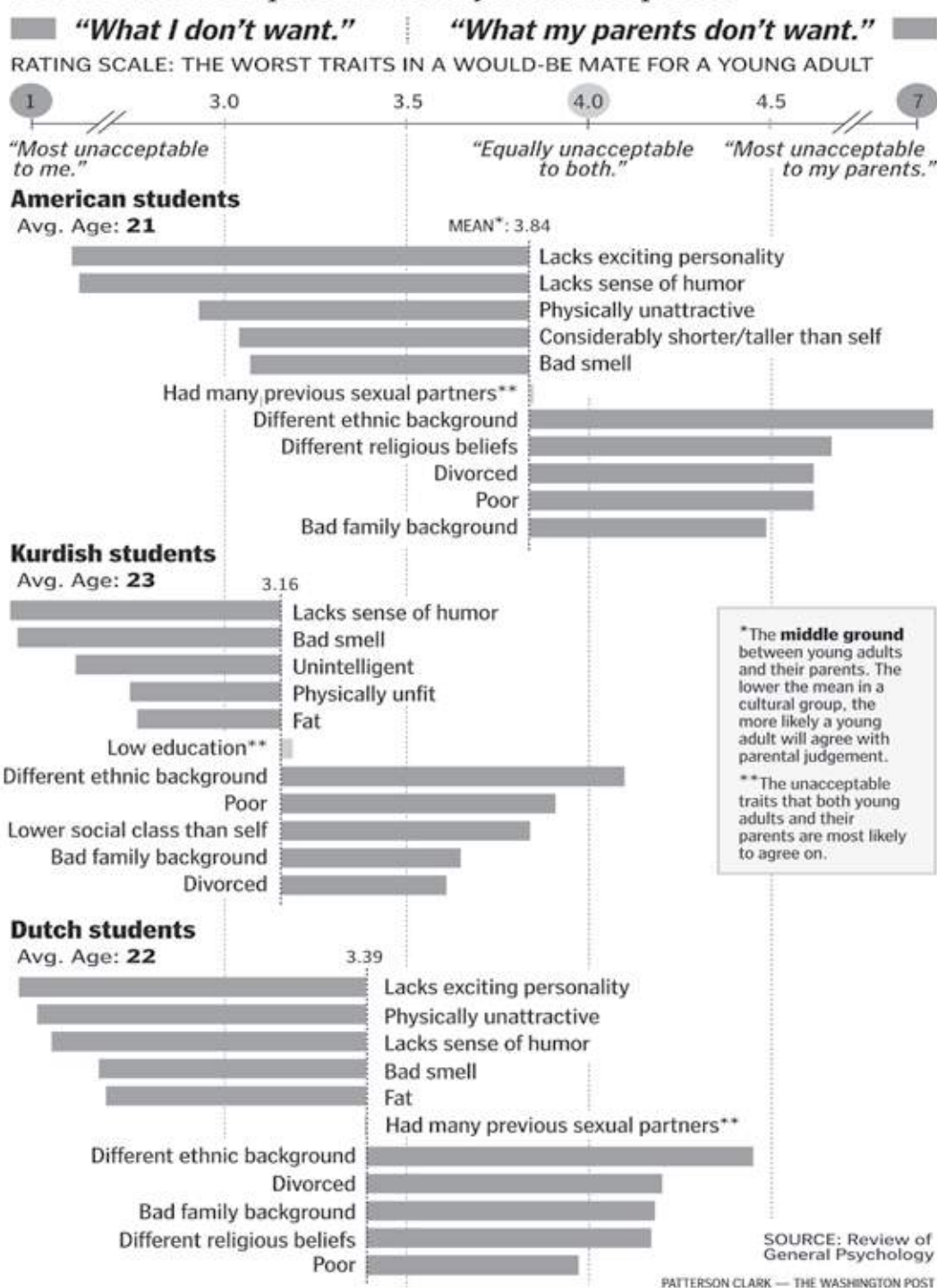
Until very recently, Coontz contends, children and parents were rarely in conflict about whom to marry—they both agreed that marriage was not about love, but about social and economic ties.

As recently as four decades ago, most American men said they wanted wives who would be good housekeepers. Most American women said they wanted husbands who were "industrious." In contrast to such expectations, U.S. men and women today invariably say they want partners who are intelligent and attractive.

Nearly everyone in the West—and growing numbers of young people elsewhere in the world—believes in the ideal of marrying for love, an idea that would have been ludicrous and dangerous a century ago, said Coontz, author of "Marriage, a History: How Love Conquered Marriage." Coontz traces the change in attitudes about marriage to the fact that growing economic self-reliance has made it less likely that people need to marry for money.

### The Opinion Gap in Choosing a Mate

Young adults from different countries were asked to rate the qualities in a potential mate they would consider unacceptable, and the ones their parents would find unacceptable.



### THREE WISE GUYS

## Subway flirting, name this decade, '911' signs on cabs

By JOE HEIM, JUSTIN RUDE and DAN ZAK  
© 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

#### Dear Wise Guys:

**So here's the scene: I'm in a suit or shirt and tie, looking professional, and I strike up a conversation with one of the many attractive women riding the subway. We're chatting, and it's going well, but then: "This is my stop." "Here's my e-mail address; shoot me an e-mail and we'll continue this conversation." "OK," she says, smiling, sometimes with a handshake. Then I go home and...nothing!!!! No e-mail, and I never see this person again.**

**So my question is: Why don't**

**women e-mail guys after they have a great conversation with them???? What's up with that, G???? And if you get many responses from the ladies on this, can you forward them to me?—Stymied in Springfield**

**Joe:** You mention you were wearing a suit or shirt and tie, but there's no mention of pants. Being approached by pantsless guys creeps women out. There's also this, G: Many ladies do e-mail men after they've shared a lovely chat. But while YOU may have thought the conversation was great, maybe the feeling wasn't mutual. Or maybe they just think that there's something unsavory about a guy who's regularly hitting on women on the subway. I hate to be this blunt, but here's the bottom line: If you haven't heard back, they're just

not interested. Seriously, try wearing pants. It can't hurt.

**Dan:** Actually, we may have a match for you. Remember Tanja, one of last week's letter writers? She also was a hysterical punctuator. With your question marks and her exclamation points, you guys have a lot in comma. We'll hook you guys up via e-mail(!?).

■ ■ ■

#### Dear Wise Guys:

**What is the name of the decade we are in? Is it the Os ("the zeroes"), the OOs ("the double-oh decade" sounds so cool and James Bond-y!), or are we just in the clunky-sounding "first decade of the 21st century"? My friends and I were trying to figure it out the other night, and since we didn't like our ideas, we thought you could help.—Monika**

**Dan:** There is no accepted name, but plenty has been written on the subject. "The aughts" comes up most frequently, but I prefer the Brits' "noughties." Perhaps history will label this decade accordingly, but I think we're going to

be left with something bland like "the turn of the century." The U.S. government should've auctioned the naming rights and donated the proceeds to the Social Security fund. That way we could be living in the Googles or the Glad Press'n Seal Wraps and maybe feel a bit calmer about our chances of retiring before age 85.

**Joe:** Based on the way things have gone so far, I nominate "the oh-nos."

■ ■ ■

#### Dear Wise Guys:

**What's up with the light on the top of D.C. cabs that says "Call 911"? My theory is that the cabbie lights it up if he's being robbed so passers-by or other cabbies will call the cops. My friend's theory is that it is to remind people that in times of emergency, don't take a cab, call 911! There's a lot riding on this. No pressure.—Beth**

**Justin:** You win; your friend loses (and, really, that's a crazy theory). Though the origin of the "Call 911" lights is clear (the D.C. Cab Commis-

sion instituted their use in the early "oh-nos" after a rash of driver-targeted violence), their effectiveness is less certain. Even the experts aren't sure. Cab commission officials could only confirm what I already knew about their origin. And the D.C. police shed little light. Officers Israel James and Junis Fletcher graciously informed me that the police simply don't keep statistics on 911 calls prompted by the lights.

"I'm not saying (the lights) aren't useful," Fletcher says, "but we don't have any information on them."

This is starting to sound like the sort of shadowy government program that turns into an intensely researched book. And if I know anything about journalists who write exposes on esoteric subjects of limited public interest, it's this: They usually end up on "The Colbert Report." I think I just planned my summer vacation.

*Have a question only the Three Wise Guys can answer? Send it to wise-guys@washpost.com and await their words of wise-dom.*





Quest

## CNN's Richard Quest faces drug charge

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A CNN reporter was arrested Friday in Central Park with a small amount of methamphetamine in his pocket, but he avoided jail time by agreeing to undergo drug counseling and therapy.

Richard Quest, 46, was arrested around 3:40 a.m. on a count of possession of a controlled substance—a misdemeanor that usually refers to a personal use amount of a drug. He was also charged with loitering; the park officially closes at 1 a.m.

When police saw and detained Quest, he told them, "I've got some meth in my pocket," according to the complaint filed in court. The complaint said he had a plastic sandwich bag containing methamphetamine in a jacket pocket.

Quest, who is British, is a correspondent for CNN International and is known for his reports on business travel. He hosts "CNN Business Traveler" and "Quest."

At his arraignment in Manhattan's Criminal Court, Judge Anthony Ferrara told Quest that if he attends the counseling and therapy designated by prosecutors for the next six months, his case will be dismissed.

The judge allowed Quest to leave court without posting bail. He warned that if Quest failed to comply with the counseling schedule, he could be back in court and on his way to jail.

Quest's lawyer, Alan M. Abramson, said his client "did not realize the park had a curfew. He was returning to his hotel with friends."

CNN had no immediate comment on Quest's arrest.

## Romance writer and publisher split up over plagiarism claims

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Romance writer Cassie Edwards and publisher Signet Books have decided to break up after allegations emerged in January that in she lifted passages in several of her books from other sources.

"Signet has conducted an extensive review of all its Cassie Edwards novels and due to irreconcilable editorial differences, Ms. Edwards and Signet have mutually agreed to part ways," the publisher said in a statement Friday.

"Cassie Edwards novels will no longer be published with Signet Books. All rights to Ms. Edwards' previously published Signet books have reverted to the author."

Signet publicist Craig Burke said that the publisher, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA), would have no additional comment. Edwards, whose many books include "Bold Wolf," "Silver Feather" and "Falcon Moon," was not immediately available for comment.

A romance novel Web site called Smart B-----, Trashy Books posted excerpts in January from Edwards' novels and placed them alongside similar

passages from reference books and magazines.

Penguin initially said that Edwards, who lives in Mattoon, Ill., had "done nothing wrong" and that any use of other texts was protected by "fair-use doctrine."

Edwards has written more than 100 novels, although not all with Penguin, which has said that more than 10 million copies of her work are in print.

"Writing my Indian romances is my small tribute to those beautiful first people of our land who have suffered so much injustice," Edwards writes on her home page on Penguin's Web site. "And I have just begun. My upcoming books will continue with more passion and adventure and rich historical settings. Enjoy!"

In a phone interview in January, the author told The Associated Press that she indeed "takes" material from other works, but said she didn't know she was supposed to credit her sources. She then asked her husband to get on the phone. Charles Edwards said the author got only "ideas" from other books and did not "lift passages."

# 'Kingdom' marks first pairing of martial arts masters

By **SUSAN KING**  
© 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

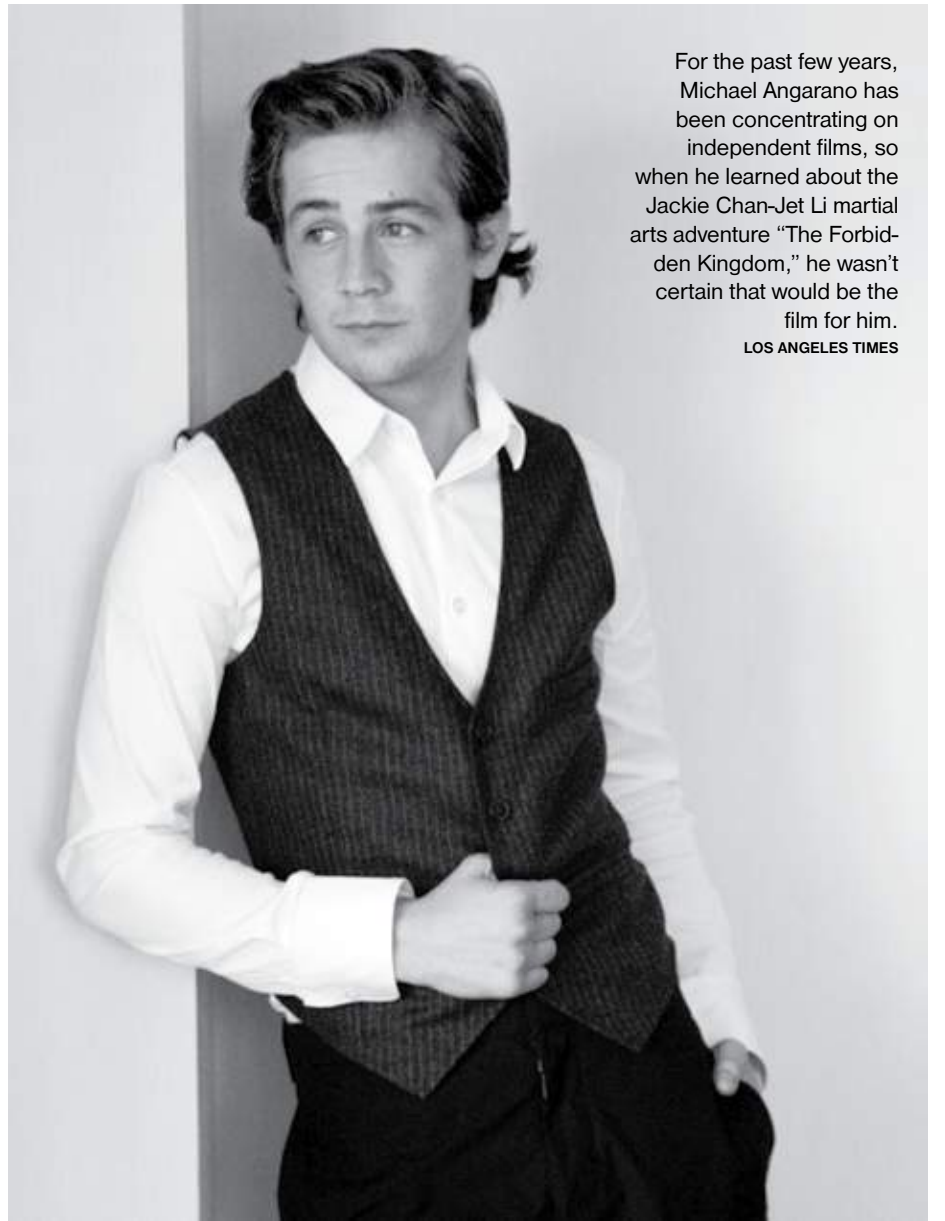
**HOLLYWOOD**—For the last few years, Michael Angarano has been concentrating on independent films, so when he learned about the Jackie Chan-Jet Li martial arts adventure "The Forbidden Kingdom" at a basketball game with his agent, he wasn't certain that would be the film for him.

"You never know what you could be doing next," says the 20-year-old actor. "It was exciting, though it wasn't something I obsessed over. I knew just as well that it could not be the next thing I would be doing. I wasn't even thinking about it too much until I had to screen test with Jackie Chan."

The period adventure, sort of a "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" meets "The Wizard of Oz," marks the first on-screen pairing of the martial arts masters. In the film, that opened Friday, Angarano, who began his career as a model at age 5, plays Jason, a nerdy Boston teenager who loves kung fu movies. While searching for some bootleg videos in a Chinatown pawnshop, Jason makes a discovery that hurls him back to ancient China, where he learns he must free the famous Monkey King (Li), who has been turned into a statue by the evil Jade War Lord (Collin Chou). Helping him in his quest—and also teaching him how to fight—are the wisecracking kung fu master Lu Yan (Chan) and the Silent Monk (also Li). It's only when he completes his task that he can find his way home to Boston.

Angarano had never done martial arts but was in good physical shape because he'd just taken up running. Once in China, he spent eight hours a day for two weeks learning martial arts with renowned action choreographer Woo-Ping Yuen ("The Matrix" trilogy, "Crouching Tiger") and squeezing in horseback riding lessons whenever possible. Over the seven-month shoot, his skills—and confidence—grew.

"It actually worked out really well that the last 35 days of filming was when we shot this huge climactic battle sequence, where I do the majority of my fighting in the movie," Angarano says. "By that point, we had shot four months already. I remember the first 50 days we were shooting stuff in the Gobi Desert and all of these locations. It was really kind of



For the past few years, Michael Angarano has been concentrating on independent films, so when he learned about the Jackie Chan-Jet Li martial arts adventure "The Forbidden Kingdom," he wasn't certain that would be the film for him.  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

tough to make sense of it all."

Director Rob Minkoff knows he was asking a lot of Angarano, who's been in "Almost Famous," "Lords of Dogtown" and, more recently, "Snow Angels." "He had to do a lot of stuff in this movie," Minkoff says. "He had to pretty much carry the movie with two of the biggest mega-superstars on the planet. He had to be able to do kung fu, and then he had to go live in China for seven months."

Minkoff says he'd kept his eyes on Angarano for several years. "I think the performance that impressed me the most was

"Lords of Dogtown," he says of his star's poignant turn as Sid, the slightly built, hearing-impaired skateboarder, circa 1970. "I think he had a charm that lit up the screen."

Angarano, who is now in Utah shooting "Gentlemen Broncos," the latest comedy from Jared Hess ("Napoleon Dynamite"), says he'd have to be Shakespeare to fully describe what it was like working with Li and Chan. "They really took me under their wings in a non-overwhelming sense," he says. "They didn't put pressure on me. They made me feel the exact opposite and made me feel good about what I was doing."

## Yale: Student's artwork purporting to show abortion a hoax

**HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)**—A Yale University art student's claim that she induced repeated abortions on herself and used the blood for her senior project is false, school officials said after her account was published in the student newspaper.

Aliza Shvarts described the project in a story Thursday in the Yale Daily News. She said she artificially inseminated herself "as often as possible" while taking herbal drugs to induce miscarriages, the story said.

The account swept across blogs and media outlets before Yale issued a statement saying it investigated and found it all to be a hoax that was Shvarts' idea of elaborate "performance art."

"The entire project is an art piece, a creative fiction designed to draw attention to the ambiguity surrounding form and function of a woman's body," said Yale spokeswoman Helaine Klasky.

But in a guest column published in Friday's student

newspaper, Shvarts insisted the project was real. She described her "repeated self-induced miscarriages," although she allows that she never knew if she was actually pregnant.

"The most poignant aspect of this representation—the part most meaningful in terms of its political agenda (and, incidentally, the aspect that has not been discussed thus far)—is the impossibility of accurately identifying the resulting blood," she said.

"Because the miscarriages coincide with the expected date of menstruation (the 28th day of my cycle), it remains ambiguous whether ... there was ever a fertilized ovum or not. The reality of the pregnancy, both for myself and for the audience, is a matter of reading," she wrote.

Shvarts told the newspaper she planned to display a work that consisted of a cube lined with plastic sheets with a blood-and-petroleum-jelly mixture in between, onto which she would

project video footage of herself "experiencing miscarriages in her bathroom tub."

University officials said Shvarts' project included visual representations, a news release and other narrative materials. When confronted by three senior Yale officials, including two deans, Shvarts acknowledged that she was never pregnant and did not induce abortions, Klasky said.

"She said if Yale puts out a statement saying she did not do this, she would say Yale was doing that to protect its reputation," Klasky said.

Shvarts told the paper her goal was to spark conversation and debate on the relationship between art and the human body.

Andrew Mangino, editor-in-chief of Yale Daily News, said the newspaper published the story after receiving a news release about the project. A reporter interviewed Shvarts and other students and saw photos and video that she said was part

of the art project, he said.

"At this point it's just he said and she said," Mingino said Friday. "The problem seems to be in the ambiguity of what each side is saying."

Shvarts could not be reached for comment. Her telephone number was disconnected and she did not respond to e-mails or a knock on the door at the address listed for her in the campus directory.

Groups for and against abortion rights expressed outrage over the affair.

Ted Miller, a spokesman for NARAL Pro-Choice America, called the concept offensive and "not a constructive addition to the debate over reproductive rights."

Peter Wolfgang, executive director of the Family Institute of Connecticut, an anti-abortion group, said his anger was not mitigated by the fact that Shvarts may never not have been pregnant. "I'm astounded by this woman's callousness," he said.





Democratic presidential hopeful, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., takes part in a comedy sketch as she makes an appearance at a taping of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" with Stephen Colbert, right, in Philadelphia, Thursday, April 17, 2008.

## Clinton is Ms. Fix-It on 'Colbert' show

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton played up her image as a tireless problem solver—this time for laughs—when she visited Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" Thursday night.

Not to be outdone, Sen. Barack Obama, her rival for the Democratic nomination, showed up via satellite to poke fun at what he called the media's fixation on gaffes and trivialities.

Clinton emerged just as host Stephen Colbert, broadcasting from the University of Pennsyl-

vania ahead of the state's primary Tuesday, was lamenting that he had no technicians to repair the lost signal on his giant rear projector screen.

"Are you telling me there is no one in this theater who can fix the mess we're in?" Colbert cried out.

"I can," Clinton said as she strolled onstage. She questioned an assistant about technical specifics before figuring out the problem. Then she called out a makeup artist to take care of Colbert's shiny forehead.

"Wow, Senator Clinton, you are so prepared for any situation!" Colbert exclaimed. "I just don't know how to thank you enough."

"I just love solving problems. Call me any time," Clinton replied. "Call me at 3 a.m."

She exited without ever sitting down—exactly two minutes after she had entered.

"I'm sure she left her cell phone number," Colbert quipped.

Later, Colbert rapped Obama for belittling the questions he received in Wednesday's tele-

vised debate on ABC News. While campaigning Thursday in North Carolina, Obama complained that the debate fixated on matters like his controversial former pastor instead of issues affecting voters.

"Well, Stephen, I think the American people are tired of these political games and petty distractions," Obama said.

"Sir, speaking for the news media, we are not tired of it," Colbert retorted.

Obama announced he was putting "manufactured distrac-

tions" on notice, and Colbert promptly added them to the notice board.

Backstage, Clinton shared a private chat with her old rival John Edwards, who also appeared on the program. Clinton aides wouldn't divulge what they discussed during the brief meeting.

Edwards has declined so far to endorse either Clinton or Obama—an endorsement that would be welcome ahead of the May 6 primary in the 2004 vice presidential nominee's home state of North Carolina.

## Top CBS brass delivers pep talk to support Couric

**NEW YORK** (AP)—CBS Corp. Chairman Leslie Moonves paid a surprise visit to the CBS newsroom Friday to support embattled anchor Katie Couric.

Moonves told CBS News employees that "there are no plans for a change - today, tomorrow and into the future," according to a network executive who was there. The executive spoke on condition of anonymity because the comments were not made public.

That doesn't mean Couric's status won't be reviewed if ratings continue to lag—but that won't happen until after the election, the executive said.

Moonves and CBS News President Sean McManus both appeared at a meeting held at noon each Friday between Couric and "CBS Evening News" executive producer Rick Kaplan. The meeting is televised internally to network news bureaus worldwide.

Several recent news articles have suggested that CBS has decided to replace Couric - who is running a distant third behind NBC and ABC in the evening news ratings—sometime after the elec-

tion or inauguration of a new president.

Moonves and McManus wanted to rebut these articles to news employees, said a CBS News staffer who watched the meeting.

"They decided it was time that everybody was very clear where they stood and that they were not going to let news articles set anybody's agenda," Kaplan said. "They made it clear in everybody's mind that they were totally supportive of Katie and of CBS News."

McManus' pep talk was more pointed, as he expressed anger at news articles that talked about weakness at the news division, the CBS staffer said.

Kaplan said Couric should be given more time, noting that it took years for former anchors like Tom Brokaw and Peter Jennings to top the ratings. He predicted Couric—whose broadcast narrowly missed a record low rating last week—will be No. 1 someday.

"She's not been at it two years and everybody is writing her obituary," he said. "That's fine. Success is the sweetest revenge."



In this Nov. 7, 2007 file photo, CBS president Les Moonves attends the NY Comedy Festival Event in New York.

## Photographer wins \$4.5K after conflict with Zsa Zsa's husband

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A photographer who said he worried he would be killed when Zsa Zsa Gabor's husband punched him in the face on a Beverly Hills street was awarded \$4,510 in damages Friday.

The eccentric hubby, Fred-eric Von Anhalt, said he initially wanted to give the man much more for busting open his lip.

In his complaint, Dirk Smeten claimed Von Anhalt, 62, angrily approached and began punching him while Smeten tried to photograph him in May 2005. The blows caused Smeten to fall to the sidewalk, according to the complaint.

Smeten claimed he suffered lip lacerations, cuts to his face, swelling, pain, high blood pressure, headaches and stress symptoms.

"Plaintiff thought he was going to be killed by defendant," according to the complaint filed in Los Angeles Superior Court. Smeten was seeking

\$137,000 in damages.

Smeten continues to get psychiatric care for stress-related symptoms since the incident, according to court documents.

Attempts to locate Smeten for comment were not successful.

Von Anhalt told The Associated Press he was taking his wife to the hairdresser and was trying to get her out of his car and into her wheelchair when the photographer approached.

"I have this cam- tograph over my shoulder trying to photograph my wife. No respect whatsoever," Von Anhalt said. "I pushed him away. He came back. I pushed him away again. He came back again."

Von Anhalt said he wanted to settle the case, and had offered Smeten \$20,000.

"I knew I had to pay something. His lip was bleeding. The bleeding lip was probably when I pushed the camera in his face," Von Anhalt said.



Von Anhalt

## Eve, Heidi Klum, Nicky Hilton among Us Weekly revelers

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Eve, Heidi Klum and Nicky Hilton were among the beautiful people who turned out for US Weekly magazine's Hot Hollywood party.

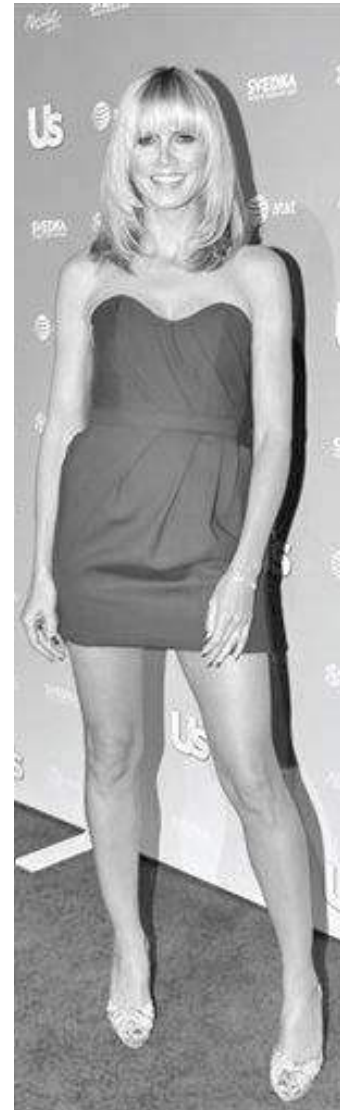
The annual celebration of young Hollywood style, held Thursday at Eva Longoria's new Beso restaurant in Hollywood, also drew famous faces from MTV's "The Hills" and ABC's "Dancing With the Stars."

Lauren Conrad chatted up the press on the red carpet outside as Ian Ziering shimmied across the dance floor under crystal chandeliers. Klum shared a table with friends as Cheryl Burke stole a smoke outside.

Meanwhile, Marlee Matlin and Cristian de la Fuente commanded a corner in the upstairs VIP room, which was all red vinyl booths and velvet wallpaper.

Though will.i.am disappeared into the crowd shortly after his arrival, his presence was loudly felt as DJ Steve Aoki spun his tunes over the club's bass-heavy system.

Despite a capacity crowd, Eve talked her way into the VIP area: "I'm sure it will be OK," she assured a security guard. Rumer Willis, wearing long hair extensions, didn't have the same success and fled with pals when the doorman turned her away.



Model Heidi Klum arrives at Us Weekly's "Hot Hollywood 2008" party on Thursday, April 17, 2008, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.



# Iglesias: Kournikova keeps saying 'no'

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)**—Spanish pop singer Enrique Iglesias says he has tried repeatedly to convince his girlfriend Anna Kournikova to marry him—with no luck.

Iglesias spoke to reporters Friday after arriving in the Dominican Republic for the first of nine concerts planned across Latin America.

Iglesias says he's been involved with the tennis star for at least three years and says she keeps ignoring his appeals to wed. In his words, "I always try, but she pays me no attention."

The Madrid-born artist is the son of crooner Julio Iglesias.

Tennis player Anna Kournikova, left, gets a kiss from latin pop-star Enrique Iglesias in this 2004 file photo at the Los Angeles Tennis Center.

AP



## Billy Joel can't pass up Beetle

**DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)**—Instead of Piano Man, how about Beetle Billy? Billy Joel now is the proud owner of a classic Volkswagen Bug. In town for a concert this week, Joel took a look around American Dream Machines, a downtown Des Moines business that specializes in vintage sports and muscle cars.



Owner Doug Klein said Joel spotted a burgundy 1973 VW Beetle. "He noticed the Bug in the corner. He said, 'That's a neat car, I like the color,'" Klein said. "He said it'd be a great beach vehicle for him."

Klein thought Joel also may have been attracted by the car's year.

"He did mention that in 1973 he did the 'Piano Man,'" Klein said, referring to one of Joel's biggest hits.

Klein wouldn't disclose what Joel paid but said: "It was the least expensive car in the shop."

The most expensive car: a 1970 Chevelle LS6, a muscle car that could go for \$150,000.

There were some side benefits, however. Joel also gave the dealer eight second-row concert tickets and backstage passes.

Mechanic Jeremiah Johnson delivered the car to Wells Fargo Arena before the show, then accompanied Joel on a test drive.

"We kind of circled the city," Johnson said. "It was very, very cool. Who expects to go to work ... and to have Billy Joel come in? It's not something everybody expects to happen."

## Woman's suit vs Kid Rock dismissed



**PONTIAC, Mich. (AP)**—A jury has dismissed a lawsuit against Kid Rock brought by a woman who claimed the rocker roughed her up outside his Michigan recording studio. A jury on Friday dismissed a claim by 29-year-old Kelly Ann Kozlowski for \$25,000 in damages.

Kozlowski sued the 37-year-

old Kid Rock, whose real name is Robert James Ritchie, after the incident last year in Clarkston. Authorities investigated but did not bring charges.

Ritchie's attorney, William Horton, says he and his client are pleased. Kozlowski's attorney, Scott Norton, says he'll appeal.

In this Feb. 10, 2008 file photo, Kid Rock arrives at Warner Music Group post-Grammy party in Los Angeles.

AP

## Bush appears on 'Deal' to thank contestant

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A presidential thank-you is part of the deal for a contestant on NBC's game show, "Deal or No Deal," when President Bush makes a surprise appearance.

The episode, airing Monday, features Capt. Joseph Kobes, as he attempts to win enough cash to pay off his parents' home. But the dealmaking is briefly halted for Kobes, a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient who has served in Iraq three times. Bush surprises him by appearing on a screen to express gratitude for his service and wish him luck in the game.

Bush's message was taped at the White House.

The game of odds, hosted by Howie Mandel, calls for a contestant to predict the amount of cash contained in any of 26 sealed



In this image released by NBC, "Deal or No Deal" host Howie Mandel, left, is shown with contestant Capt. Joseph Kobes, right, and his supporter Laura Johnson during the taping of the game show in Los Angeles.

AP

briefcases. The top prize for guessing correctly is \$1 million.

No details were released on

how Kobes, an Army transportation officer from Sumner, Wash., fared in his quest for the jackpot.

## Drew Lachey raring to win car race for charity

**LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)**—Drew Lachey has traded in his dancing shoes for a racing helmet.

The second-season "Dancing with the Stars" champion and former member of the pop group 98 Degrees qualified Friday for the Toyota Pro/Celebrity Race, a 10-lap charity race that is part of 34th annual Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach.

"This is very different than 'Dancing with the Stars,'" Lachey told The Associated

Press before his run. "The only way it's similar is that you have a very short window to try to perfect an art form."

Lachey will compete against celebrities including William Fichtner from "Prison Break" and Wilmer Valderrama from "That '70s Show" in race-modified Scion tCs on a 1.97-mile, 11-turn circuit through the downtown streets of Long Beach, Calif.

"You get to race very fast and legally," Lachey said. "That was

one of the big draws for me to do this."

The other was charity. The race benefits the Miller Children's Hospital and Children's Hospital of Orange County. The celebrity winner will also receive a \$20,000 donation to the charity of their choice.

Lachey and NASCAR pit reporter Jamie Little are the evenly matched 4-to-1 famous favorites to win the Saturday race, according to Las Vegas Advisor.com president Anthony Curtis.

## Wife married to a cheater finds right ring for divorce

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 45-year-old woman with two daughters, ages 20 and 23. I married my high school sweetheart, "Cooper." I had heard rumors that Cooper had strayed from time to time, but had no evidence to back it up, and, of course, he denied it.

I went by my husband's office one day to surprise him, and his new secretary informed me that Cooper had just taken his wife to lunch at a local bistro! I went right over there and found them whispering, kissing and feeding each other. I did not make a scene. When Cooper arrived home that evening, I confronted him. He tried to deny it. I called him a liar and he slapped me! (A first.) He moved out that night, and I filed for divorce.

I pawned my wedding band and engagement ring. The clerk asked if I was going to buy a divorce ring. I had never heard of one. I searched online, found a nice one, ordered it and wear it proudly.

Cooper and his parents are livid! They say I am poking fun at him and accuse me of "promoting divorce." My friends and oldest daughter think it's cool. Some of my divorced friends have ordered rings, too. The ring is different in design, beautiful, makes me feel good and shows my independence. Should I feel guilty for wearing an identity ring like this?

DIVORCING AND LOVING IT IN NORTH CAROLINA

**DEAR DIVORCING AND LOVING IT:** No, you should not. The next time Cooper and his parents accuse you of "promoting divorce," remind them that it was Cooper who promoted divorce by openly cheating on you. If the ring brings you pleasure—and comfort—then enjoy it.

However, please be aware that many people will not understand its significance—and if you wear it on the third finger of your left hand, they may think you are still married and unavailable.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I need your help. I am happily married to a wonderful man but recently became attracted to a co-worker. The man is completely not my type and I would never act on these feelings, but it's starting to distract me at work. I think he feels the same way, but would never approach me because he knows I am married and ethical.

I have thought about leaving my job, but I am very successful here. Walking away would be a bad career move for me and put a financial damper on my family. As long as I don't act on my feelings—or even discuss them—is it morally wrong to continue working here? I know it's normal to be attracted to other people, but I have never felt THIS attracted to anyone other than my husband before. This is making me feel extremely guilty, but I can't help my feelings. What should I do?

UNSURE IN SYRACUSE

**DEAR UNSURE:** The time has come to have a truth session—with yourself. If you are attracted to your co-worker to the point that it is "distracting," could you be sending him signals that you are available?

If that's the case, it might be better for your marriage—and your career—to explore openings elsewhere. If it's not, then please understand that marriage is not a prophylactic against becoming attracted to others. However, responsible adults don't take the bait, and that should include you. Nothing in life is free, and this could cost you your future.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



# CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
• 3-Liner with picture	\$45
• 5-Liner with picture	\$55

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

1st position	\$13.00
2nd position	\$5.00
Succeeding positions	\$2.00

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

#### Saturday And Sunday Issues:

- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Subscribe  
to CNMI's  
First Daily  
Newspaper

235-NEWS



### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished  
1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month,  
near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Apartment Room for Rent  
2 bed room \$230.00, Koblerville.  
Contact: 288-0728.

**NEW Rattan Furniture  
FOR SALE**  
Expensive material  
Call 789-1625

www.saipantribune.com

The Saipan Tribune now offers

# Classified Ads Super Saver Package

for Print and Online Editions

A complete 7-day run for car sales, employment,  
garage sales, apartment rentals, announcements,  
lost and found, business services, and more...

3-LINER AD

\$25

3-LINER AD  
W/ PHOTO

\$45

5-LINER AD

\$35

5-LINER AD  
W/ PHOTO

\$55

Get results. Advertise now!

Call now at 235-2769  
for more details.

Hafa Adai!  
**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER





# Isiah Thomas fired as Knicks coach



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Isiah Thomas couldn't win as coach with the players he assembled as president. Now, he's lost both jobs. Thomas was fired as the New York Knicks coach Friday after a season of listless and dreadful basketball, a tawdry lawsuit and unending chants from fans demanding his dismissal.

Thomas lost a franchise record-tying 59 games this season, and along the way seemed to lose the support of his players, who didn't always play hard for him the way they did last season.

"I can't really tell you where he failed with the club. I think that we reached a point this season when our team didn't compete for a long time," new team president Donnie Walsh said. "The bottom line is that we haven't won and the team didn't look like it was motivated to try to win and be competitive."

Walsh said that isn't always the coach's fault, but Thomas is blamed for enough already—sometimes unfairly, Walsh added.

"I feel like some of the bigger events that happened on the way with Isiah have overshadowed some of the good things he's done for the franchise," Walsh said.

Walsh said no player brought up Thomas' name during their exit meetings Thursday, though Walsh said he wasn't going to be asking for it, anyway.

Thomas, the coach for two seasons, will remain with the organization in an unnamed role, reporting directly to Walsh, who said he informed Thomas of the decision Friday.

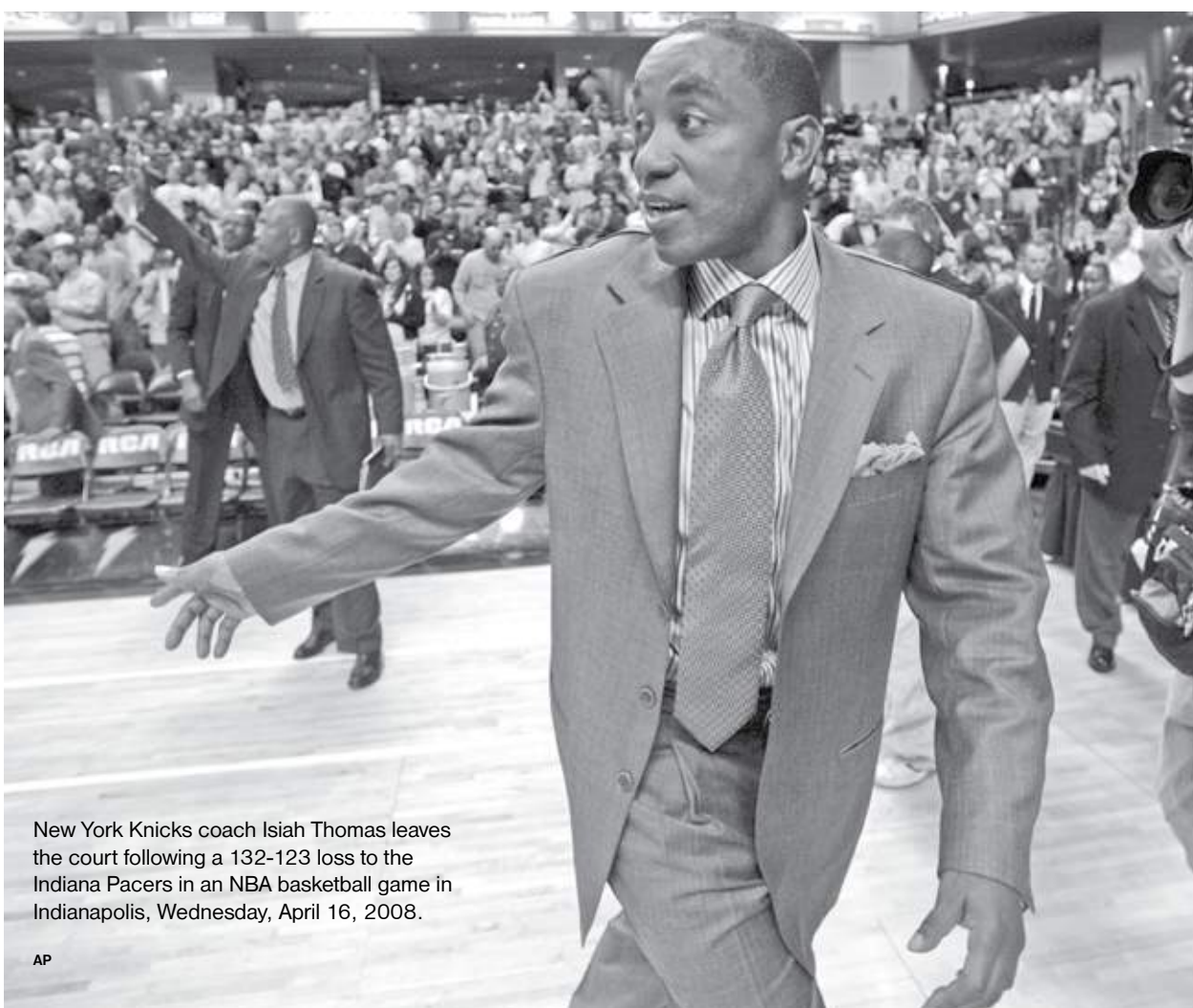
"It's very difficult to be the coach and general manager," Walsh said. "Maybe it was too much."

Walsh took over Thomas' role as team president April 2, and his first big decision was to change coaches as he begins the process of turning around a team that never won a playoff game in Thomas' tenure.

"I just believe a new voice, a new coach, is necessary to change the direction of the team," Walsh said. "This is a coveted job. People want to coach here."

A message was left for Thomas at his New York office.

The Knicks finished 23-59 in their



New York Knicks coach Isiah Thomas leaves the court following a 132-123 loss to the Indiana Pacers in an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Wednesday, April 16, 2008.

AP

seventh straight losing season.

Two of those 59-loss debacles came in the last three years, when the Knicks solidified themselves as the NBA's most dysfunctional franchise with poor play on the court and embarrassing behavior off it.

This season alone, Thomas was found to have sexually harassed a former team employee, feuded with point guard Stephon Marbury and benched center Eddy Curry - the players Thomas acquired in the two biggest of a number of moves that never panned out.

Walsh wants a new coach in place by the draft in June, when the Knicks will finally have their lottery pick again after handing over their last two to Chicago in the Curry trade.

Walsh said he hasn't talked to any candidates, but mentioned former

Knick and current TV analyst Mark Jackson, and assistant coach Herb Williams as people who likely would be interviewed. He said he has no timetable to make his decision.

"Obviously, when you're losing, there has to be a culture change," he said. "There's no easy answer. ... We've got to work 24-7 to become competitive."

And Thomas will be a part of that. Without getting specific, Walsh said there were assignments he'd feel completely comfortable giving to Thomas.

"I will be in touch with Isiah a lot," he said.

Thomas went 56-108 in New York and is 187-223 as an NBA coach, leading the Indiana Pacers to the playoffs in three straight years from 2000-03. Larry Bird fired him after becoming team president, a move

Walsh—who had hired Thomas as coach—was originally against but eventually went along with.

Thomas was hired as the Knicks' team president on Dec. 22, 2003, and he acquired Marbury from Phoenix weeks later. The Knicks made the playoffs that season, getting swept by New Jersey, but haven't gone back despite their annual spot atop the league's highest payroll list.

Though the salary cap was already out of whack by the time Thomas arrived, he didn't help matters with some questionable moves. He gave a \$30 million contract in the summer of 2005 to center Jerome James, a career 4.3 points per game scorer who hasn't been healthy or productive, and seems bothered by neither. A year later, Thomas used his mid-level exception

on Jared Jeffries, who has limited offensive skills.

Still, Madison Square Garden chairman James Dolan remained confident in Thomas, even making him coach in June 2006 after firing Larry Brown following one season. But that came with an ultimatum, as Dolan warned Thomas to show "evident progress" in one season or be fired from both positions.

The Knicks went 33-49 last season. Dolan rewarded Thomas with a multi-year contract extension with more than a month left after New York moved into eighth place, but the Knicks collapsed under a series of injuries and missed the postseason.

Things went poorly this season from the time training camp opened.

The jury came back with its verdict that day, finding that Thomas and MSG sexually harassed former team executive Anucha Browne Sanders and ordering the company to pay \$11.6 million in damages. Criticized by Al Sharpton and Rutgers women's coach C. Vivian Stringer for comments he made in his taped deposition, Thomas seemed downcast during most of training camp - and never had much reason for better spirits when the season began.

The Knicks started 2-1, then dropped eight in a row as the Thomas-Marbury feud sent the season spiraling out of control. Marbury responded to Thomas' plans to bench him by skipping a game in Phoenix, and the players reportedly voted to make Marbury sit out a game when he returned. Instead, Thomas played the point guard more than 33 minutes off the bench in a game in Los Angeles against the Clippers.

It soon became obvious that Thomas' draft night acquisition of Zach Randolph had set back Curry, who lost his confidence and later his starting job. Speculation was rampant by Thanksgiving that Thomas' job was in jeopardy, and it only heated up after the Knicks' nationally televised 104-59 loss at Boston on Nov. 29.

Chants of "Fire Isiah!" sometimes started minutes after home games, and even Dolan's strong relationship with Thomas couldn't convince people the coach would last.

## UCLA All-American Love plans to leave early for the NBA

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—UCLA's Kevin Love is NBA-bound. Less than two weeks after leading the Bruins to the Final Four, the All-American freshman announced Thursday that he'll skip his final three college seasons and enter the NBA draft.

"I feel like I'm in the right spot to take my game to the next level," Love said Thursday. "Since I was 5 years old this has been a dream of mine."

Love made his announcement at a news conference while sitting between his father, former NBA player Stan Love, and UCLA coach Ben Howland.

The 6-foot-10 Love said he did not immediately plan to hire an agent, which would temporarily allow to keep playing for UCLA.

"I want to maintain my eligibility in case something happens," Love said. He later added that it's "definitely a possibility" that something could

prompt him to change his mind.

Love led the Bruins in scoring (17.5 points) and rebounds (10.6) on the way to a 35-win season and a trip to national semifinals, where UCLA lost to Memphis.

Love impressed many with his strength—in practice, he made full-court shots with two-handed chest passes. He was known for his sharp outlet passes, court smarts and leadership qualities.

Scouts have projected Love to be a top-10 pick in the June 26 draft, Howland said.

"We fully expect that he'll be a very high draft pick," Howland said. "We're behind his decision 100 percent."

Love said he spent the two weeks since the Final Four getting advice from Howland, former UCLA coach John Wooden and teammates in a similar spot.

Last week, Love returned home to Oregon to mull over his choices with

his family. The nephew of Beach Boys member Mike Love called his year at UCLA was "the best of my life" both on the court and around campus, but said the NBA was too much to resist.

"If you have a chance, you have to take it," he said.

Love's teammate, sophomore guard Russell Westbrook, also said Thursday that he's headed to the NBA, as had been expected.

"Russell Westbrook has worked very, very hard to put himself in a position where he could be a first-round draft pick," Howland said. "I haven't had a player who improved more in one year, ever, than Russell."

Westbrook said that if it looks as though he'll go lower than about the 20th pick in the draft, he'll likely return to school. Players who don't hire agents can back out of the draft as late as June 16.

Howland said he's facing more uncertainty than he ever has in an offsea-

son, but called the presence of so many potential NBA players "a good problem to have." He said he was lucky to get Love for even a season because in previous years he could well have gone straight the NBA.

Darren Collison, the team's junior point guard, has yet to decide whether he'll stay or go. The deadline for underclassmen to declare is April 27.

"He's not in any hurry," Howland said of Collison.

Love said his performance and his team's healthy run through the Pac-10 season and the postseason tournaments pushed him toward leaving.

"The second half of the season really decided it for me," he said.

Love said he will be happy whoever drafts him, but if he had his druthers he'd like to stay home—or one of his homes anyway.

"Obviously, I'd like to go to Portland, it's my hometown," he said with a grin. "Or I'd like to stay here in Los

Angeles, and have one of these teams take me."

Love said he had prepared a written statement but instead spoke off the cuff, loudly and with a smile, as he did most of a season when his production and infectious personality made him a local—then a national—celebrity.

He also drew constant comparisons to former UCLA big men Lew Alcindor (Kareem Abdul Jabbar) and Bill Walton. Love said Thursday he plans to use those two, along with UCLA alum Jackie Robinson, as his model for how to stay involved with the school after he leaves.

"I'm looking to leave a legacy at UCLA," he said.

Love's father sat looking considerably shaggier than his short-haired, suit-and-tied son.

"I'm trying to get this guy to dress better," Kevin Love said.

"It's his coat," Stan Love replied.



# Santana, Wright lead Mets over Phillies



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—

Johan Santana struck out 10 over seven innings, David Wright fell a homer short of the cycle and the New York Mets beat the Philadelphia Phillies 6-4 on Friday night.

Santana (2-2) allowed three runs and four hits, outpitching Cole Hamels in a matchup of two of the best left-handers in the majors.

Wright finished 4-for-4 with two RBIs and a walk.

Pinch-hitter Greg Dobbs hit a three-run homer off reliever Aaron Heilman to cut the Phillies' deficit to 5-4 in the eighth, but the Mets bullpen held on. Billy Wagner pitched a perfect ninth for his third save.

Facing the defending NL East champions for the first time since joining New York, Santana showed why the Mets made him the highest-paid pitcher in major league history.

The two-time AL Cy Young award winner kept a potent lineup off balance with his trademark changeup while mixing in quite a few sliders.

Hamels (2-2) gave up five runs—four earned—and eight hits in seven-plus innings.

The Mets beat the Phillies for the third straight time after losing nine in a row over two seasons. Jimmy Rollins, the 2007 NL MVP, has been out of the lineup for each of New York's wins. He hasn't started the last nine games since spraining his left ankle in a win over the Mets on April 8.

Carlos Delgado's sacrifice fly off Brad Lidge gave the Mets a two-run cushion in the ninth. First baseman Ryan Howard's error—the 17th committed by the Phillies this season—led to the unearned run.

## Braves 6, Dodgers 1

At Atlanta, Chipper Jones hit a three-run shot off Derek Lowe in the fifth to help the Braves score a 6-1 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Jones added a solo homer in the seventh for his second two-homer game in a row. He went 4-for-4 the previous night with two homers and three RBIs in an 8-0 rout of the Florida Marlins. The 3-of-5 performance



New York Mets starting pitcher Johan Santana, center, is relieved by manager Willie Randolph, 12, during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies, Friday, April 18, 2008, in Philadelphia. Looking on are David Wright, left, and Brian Schneider. Santana struck out 10 batters over seven innings in their 6-4 win.

against the Dodgers raised his average to .455.

## Cubs 3, Pirates 2

At Chiago, Rich Hill won for the first time in three starts this year, and the Cubs beat the Pirates for their ninth victory in 12 games.

Mark DeRosa doubled and drove in a run, and Reed Johnson hit a tiebreaking single in a three-run fourth inning as Chicago sent the Pirates to their third straight loss.

## Brewers 5, Reds 2

At Cincinnati, Ben Sheets dominated for five innings before a tight pitching arm forced him from the game, and Milwaukee held on to beat slumping Cincinnati.

Sheets (3-0) allowed only a pair of singles, looking very comfortable in a hitter-friendly ballpark where he has never lost. Sheets felt tightness in his right biceps and left for a pinch-

hitter in the sixth inning.

## Nationals 6, Marlins 4

At Miami, Nick Johnson hit a three-run double and drove in four runs, helping Washington snap a three-game skid.

Washington, which had lost 12 of 13, scored only five runs in being swept by the Mets.

## Cardinals 11, Giants 1

At St. Louis, Albert Pujols hit a three-run homer to cap a six-run fourth inning, Skip Schumaker and Chris Duncan each had two hits and two RBIs with a walk in their first three at-bats, and the Cardinals managed a season high for runs.

The 23-year-old Matt Cain (0-2), whose 3.65 ERA was 10th in the National League last year, allowed a personal-high nine runs on eight hits in 3 2-3 innings. He also gave up a two-run homer to Duncan in the third.

night game. Favre announced his retirement earlier this year, ending a 17-year career.

His number will become the sixth retired by the team. Others are the No. 14 of wide

## Diamondbacks 9, Padres 0

At Phoenix, Conor Jackson matched a career high with four hits, including two triples and a home run, and Arizona routed weary San Diego.

After losing a 22-inning game to Colorado and arriving in Phoenix at about 4 a.m. Friday, the Padres fell behind 6-0 in the first inning and offered little resistance to Arizona starter Dan Haren (3-0), who gave up three hits in seven innings, walking one and striking out three.

## Red Sox 11, Rangers 3

At Boston, Slumping David Ortiz hit a grand slam, Daisuke Matsuzaka stayed unbeaten and the Red Sox beat the Rangers.

Dustin Pedroia hit his first homer, a two-run shot that capped Boston's five-run fourth inning. The Red Sox won for the sixth time in seven games.

receiver Don Hutson, fullback Tony Canadeo's No. 3, quarterback Bart Starr's No. 15, linebacker Ray Nitschke's No. 66 and defensive end Reggie White's No. 92.

goal is to raise funds and support the Northern Marianas College, Saipan's lone post-secondary educational institution. It is made up of individuals who are dedicated and committed to ensuring that CNMI students receive the utmost support in pursuing their educational goals.

## Orioles 8, Yankees 2

At Baltimore, Jay Payton and Melvin Mora had two RBIs apiece in a seven-run sixth inning, Daniel Cabrera took a four-hitter into the seventh and Baltimore beat New York.

Cabrera and Phil Hughes were locked in a 1-1 duel before the Orioles sent 11 men to the plate in their most productive inning of the season. Baltimore got seven hits, all of them singles, against three pitchers.

## Indians 4, Twins 0

AT Minneapolis, Cliff Lee pitched two-hit ball for eight innings, Casey Blake homered and had three RBIs, and Cleveland beat Francisco Liriano and the Twins.

Lee (3-0) struck out eight and walked one.

## Tigers 8, Blue Jays 4

At Toronto, Edgar Renteria hit a two-run home run, Kenny Rogers won for the first time

since July and Detroit handed Toronto its sixth consecutive home defeat.

## White Sox 9, Rays 2

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Jim Thome hit his 511th career home run and Javier Vazquez won his third consecutive start to help Chicago win for the 10th time in 14 games.

## Angels 5, Mariners 4

At Anaheim, Torii Hunter shrugged off a some stiffness in his neck and back from a pre-game fender-bender and made a leaping catch above the center-field wall to deny Richie Sexson of two-run homer and preserve the Angels' win.

## Athletics 13, Royals 2

At Oakland, Calif., Bobby Crosby homered and drove in five runs, Chad Gaudin had his strongest outing of the season and the Athletics snapped a three-game losing streak.



## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	11	7	.611	
Baltimore	10	7	.588	1/2
New York	9	9	.500	2
Toronto	8	9	.471	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	7	10	.412	3 1/2

##### Central Division

Chicago	10	6	.625	
Kansas City	9	8	.529	1 1/2
Minnesota	7	10	.412	3 1/2
Cleveland	7	10	.412	3 1/2
Detroit	6	11	.353	4 1/2

##### West Division

Los Angeles	11	7	.611	
Oakland	10	8	.556	1
Seattle	9	9	.500	2
Texas	7	10	.412	3 1/2

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### East Division

New York	9	6	.600	
Florida	9	7	.563	1/2
Philadelphia	8	9	.471	2
Atlanta	7	9	.438	2 1/2
Washington	5	12	.294	5

##### Central Division

St. Louis	12	5	.706	
Milwaukee	10	6	.625	1 1/2
Chicago	10	6	.625	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	7	9	.438	4 1/2
Cincinnati	7	10	.412	5
Houston	6	11	.353	6

##### West Division

Arizona	12	4	.750	
Colorado	8	8	.500	4
San Diego	8	9	.471	4 1/2
Los Angeles	7	9	.438	5
San Francisco	6	11	.353	6 1/2

#### Yesterday's Games

Cubs 3, Pirates 2	
Orioles 8, Yankees 2	
Mets 6, Phillies 4	
Red Sox 11, Rangers 3	
Tigers 8, Blue Jays 4	
White Sox 9, Rays 2	
Brewers 5, Reds 2	
Nationals 6, Marlins 4	
Braves 6, Dodgers 1	
Rockies 11, Astros 5	
Indians 4, Twins 0	
Cardinals 11, Giants 1	
Diamondbacks 9, Padres 0	
Athletics 13, Royals 2	
Angels 5, Mariners 4	

### VERIZON HERITAGE SCORES

**HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina** (AP)—Scores Friday from the \$5.5 million (€3.5 million) PGA Verizon Heritage at the par-71, 7,697-yard Harbour Town Golf Links:

#### SECOND ROUND

Lucas Glover	66	66	132
--------------	----	----	-----

By The Associated Press

# Packers to retire Favre's No. 4 during opener



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—The Green Bay Packers will retire Brett Favre's No. 4 during the season opener against the

Minnesota Vikings on Sept. 8.

Packers President and CEO Mark Murphy says the legendary quarterback's number would be retired in a ceremony at Lambeau Field during the Monday

night game. Favre announced his retirement earlier this year, ending a 17-year career.

His number will become the sixth retired by the team. Others are the No. 14 of wide receiver Don Hutson, fullback Tony Canadeo's No. 3, quarterback Bart Starr's No. 15, linebacker Ray Nitschke's No. 66 and defensive end Reggie White's No. 92.

goal is to raise funds and support the Northern Marianas College, Saipan's lone post-secondary educational institution.

It is made up of individuals who are dedicated and committed to ensuring that CNMI students receive the utmost support in pursuing their educational goals.

For registration information, contact Mark Mendiola at 234-5498 ext. 1050 or visit Triple J Motors, NMC cashier's window, or the Laolao Bay Golf Resort to sign up.

The NMC Foundation is a non-profit organization whose

## ALL

From Page 28

The tournament will have a shotgun start of 7am. Proceeds from the 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open will go toward the needs of the islands' lone tertiary institution.

The evening before the tournament, organizers of the 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open will hold a special sponsors cocktail party at the Club V of the Saipan Grand Hotel as well as post-tournament banquet for players at the Hyatt Regency



# The Week in Sports

## Fiesta-Grand, DCAA are week's finest



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Fans of Fiesta-Grand Hotel celebrate with the team after winning the 2nd Annual HANMI Cup Inter-Hotel Basketball League last week.



JON PEREZ

The women's team of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs pose for a group photo after completing their title defense in the Inter-government Softball League on Friday at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Field.



JON PEREZ

Members of Salty Boyz gather for a group photo after winning the Belau Amateur Softball Association Masters League on Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Field.



Members of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs pose with their medals and pennant and championship trophies after beating Aguagat in the finals of the men's division of the Inter-Government Softball League on Tuesday at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Field.

JON PEREZ

The 21 participants of the CNMI Women's Golf Association Members Annual Two-Day Golf Tournament pose for a group photo holding the event banner. The tournament was held over the weekend at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



By **MARK RABAGO**  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

**F**iesta-Grand Hotel and the men's and women's teams of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs drubbed all headliners in sports this past week.

Fiesta-Grand, the name of the combined Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan and Saipan Grand Hotel, won the 2nd Annual HANMI Cup Inter-Hotel Basketball League championship.

It did so after disposing of Pacific Islands Club, 87-72, in the do-or-die finale last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

DCCA men's and women's squads, meanwhile, reigned supreme in the Inter-government Softball League after beating Aguagat and Northern Mari-

anas College-Proa, respectively.

The DCCA men were all business drowning Aguagat with a tsunami of hits to cruise to a 43-11 win last Tuesday at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Field.

DCCA women, meanwhile, used an eight-run bottom of the sixth scoring spree to score a come-from-behind 13-10 win over NMC last April 11 also at the Tan Ge field.

In other news, Salty Boyz coasted to a 6-0 blanking of PTI 83 in Game 3 of the finals of the Belau Amateur Softball Association Masters Softball League last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Field.

Pacific Oceania, meanwhile, went down five rungs to No. 68 in the latest Davis Cup standings following its 2-3 loss in the

hands of Oman last weekend at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Muscat.

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan also held its first two American Red Cross swim lessons last April 5 and 12 and it averaged 60 swimmers.

Youth netter Ji Hoon Heo, for his part, advanced to the second round of the 2008 Lee Duk Hee Cup Korea International Junior Championships but lost to a Korean foe ranked 1,164 in the world junior rankings.

In bowling Kitz Barja, Gigi Zapanta, and Zack Cruz won the April editions of the MAR-PAC-sponsored monthly King, Queen, and Princes of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament held last Sunday and Monday at the Capital Bowling Center in Garapan.

In golf, Noriko Togawa and Shirlyn Jones topped the CNMI Women's Golf Association Members Annual Two-Day Golf Tournament held over the weekend at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The XTEARRA triathlon, 9th Annual Pacific Islands Club-Miller Lite Spring Co-ed 4-Person Beach Volleyball League, and the first leg of the preliminary trials of the 4th Annual McDonald's All-Schools Track and Field Championship all also took part the past eight days.

The past week also saw the continuation of games in the SBA Open 8-Ball League, 3rd Annual Budweiser-Saipan Major League, Inaugural FMI Inter-Color Basketball League, and the Saipan Little League Baseball Association.



JON PEREZ

Participants compete in the qualifying trials for next month's McDonald's All-Schools Championships. Northern Marianas Athletics held the trials from April 14 to 17 at the Oleai Track and Field facility inside the Susupe Sports Complex.



MARK RABAGO

Kitz Barja, left, and Gigi Zapanta show off their winnings and a case of Budweiser after topping the April edition of the monthly Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament held last Sunday and Monday at the Capital Bowling Center in Garapan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kazumi Otake and Pia Tenorio pose for a photo after winning the relay event of the Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation's first kids triathlon this year.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Amanda Johnson helps teach kids how to swim during Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's American Red Cross swim lessons last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Nuri Gutzwiller crosses the finish line to win the 11-12 division.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



As Matuis Twins pitcher Derion Jones, top, tries to catch the ball in order to prevent Tanapag Braves catcher Ricky Joe Rengil from touching home plate in their Thursday game in the Majors division of the Saipan Little League at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Field.

JON PEREZ





## Fiesta-Grand, DCAA are week's finest

Fiesta-Grand Hotel and the men's and women's teams of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs drubbed all headliners in sports this past week.

27

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Isiah Thomas fired as Knicks coach

Isiah Thomas couldn't win as coach with the players he assembled as president. Now, he's lost both jobs.

25



28 SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# All set for next week's NMC Open



JON PEREZ

The 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open organizing committee pose for a group photo after a meeting held at the Kili Café at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on Friday. Standing from left, Mark Mendiola, Michael Von Siebenthal, and Ben Babauta. Seating from left, Joanna Pai and Ivan Quichocho.

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

All is set for Saturday's 6th Annual NMC Foundation Open at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort, as the organizing committee is making sure everything is in order before the first golfer tees off on April 26.

The NMC Foundation Open organizing committee met Friday afternoon at the Kili Café at the Hyatt Regency Saipan to give an update on their ongoing preparations for the Commonwealth's

second "major" and discuss what other things they need to do before Saturday's big event.

Present during the meeting were NMC Foundation Open chairman Michael Von Siebenthal, co-chair Ben Babauta, and members Mark Mendiola, Joanna Pai, and Ivan Quichocho. Pai and Quichocho are also board members of the NMC Foundation.

Quichocho said this year's tournament would be different since they won't be awarding trophies to

the Top 3 placers and instead will hand out certificates along with cash prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200 in each flight. "There's also a lot of exciting raffle prizes."

He added aside from the cash prizes the champion of each flight—Championship, A, B, C, Senior, Ladies, and the double Peoria—will receive a round trip ticket from Continental Airlines.

"We are still working on the destination. But for sure the champions in each flight will be getting round trip tickets aside from their

cash prize," said Babauta.

Von Siebenthal said 80 have already registered for Saturday's tournament as they avail of the early bird sign up. They are expecting more to sign up before Saturday. The entrance fee before the April 19 deadline was \$85, which now goes up to \$100 after Saturday.

Mendiola reminded all volunteers that a meeting would be held at the NMC conference room at 9am to discuss the assignments for Saturday's tournament, which will follow a special double Peoria on all men's flights.

See ALL on Page 26

## 'Palaxi' goes down fighting vs Brazilian foe

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan pushed Brazilian jujitsu expert Eben "The Jackhammer" Kaneshiro to the limit before suffering a second round loss in the main event of PXC Live IV: Face Off last week in Guam.

Sablan traveled to Guam along with trainer Cuki Alvarez to battle Kaneshiro, who fought out of the Next Generation Fight Club of Stockton, California.

The loss dropped Sablan's record to 9-4 while Kaneshiro improved to 13-3 after losing to Hawaii's 808 Fight Factory's Vernon Paringit in PXC XVI: Evolution last month.

Sablan was considered by mixed martial arts fight fans as one of the top fighters in the 145-lb division that can challenge Kaneshiro after

beating Guam's Ryan "The Dentist" Urquiza in the main event of Preba Hao X last December.

Sablan did not disappoint Guam's MMA fans and fought well against Kaneshiro, who holds a black belt in Brazilian jujitsu. He was the aggressor at the start of the fight throwing a barrage of punches and elbows to Kaneshiro's head and face.

He had the opportunity of ending the fight via stoppage after surprising his opponent with his aggressive fighting style. But Kaneshiro managed to weather the onslaught and managed to inflict a vicious cut on Sablan's right eyebrow in the final minute of the opening round.

A knee by Kaneshiro caused that cut and the referee had to call a time out to let the fight doctor examine Sablan and administer first

aid to stop the bleeding.

After giving the green light for Sablan to continue fighting, the two warriors resumed their attacks at each other as neither fighter did not slowed down before the fight was stopped by the bell that signaled the end of the first round.

Round two began the same way how the fight started as they continued to attack each other and trade blows in an epic brawl. Kaneshiro managed to gain the upperhand and took down Sablan to the ground to work his black belt experience.

Kaneshiro established a top mount and threw an array of hammer fists to Sablan's face forcing the referee to step in and stop the fight with barley two minutes left in the second round.

"I felt that I was physically

and mentally ready for this fight. I train with the best fighters at Trench Tech and although I lost, I know I fought well and was actually happy with my performance. [Kaneshiro] was just the better fighter that night and I'm looking forward to my next big match up against anyone the PXC matches me up with," said Sablan.

Alvarez said they knew that Sablan's match up against Kaneshiro would be the toughest. "We knew that [Kaneshiro] will be [Saban's] toughest opponent. Anytime you fight a [Brazilian jujitsu] black belt, you better be 100 percent focused and prepared, and ready to go to war," said Alvarez in an email.

He added Sablan trained hard for the fight and has nothing to be ashamed of after giving it his all. "He [Sablan] fought his heart off and earned [Kaneshiro's] respect just by stepping into that ring."

## OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN

Coldeen is a longtime sports journalist in the CNMI and is the news and sports director of the Flame Tree Network.



## NBA Rambling

Celtics vs. Lakers. Boston vs. Los Angeles. East Coast vs. Left Coast.

Beantown vs. LaLa Land. It has to be. If there is an NBA god, then that will be the championship series this season. Jack Nicholson is praying now. Me, too. As someone who grew up on that rivalry, I think of it as the best in league history.

From the '60's to the '80's, the Celtics owned the Lakers in the finals with a 7-0 record until 1985 when Magic Johnson led Showtime over Bird and boys, still the most riveting basketball series that I've ever seen. Kurt Rambis, where are you?

Kobe vs. Garnett. Instant classic. Heavyweight class. Of course there are 14 possible reasons why they won't make it. That's the rest of the field.

The most intriguing first round match-up in the West is Phoenix versus San Antonio. Either Shaq or Duncan goes out in the opening series. Each big man has four rings. At one point, they won five consecutive Finals MVP. For them, it's one and done, baybee. Loser leaves.

Gilbert Arenas assured all that Cleveland versus Washington would be the most intriguing series in the East by insulting King James outlandishly. Go figure. Last two seasons LeBron kicked the Wizards out of the playoffs. Don't piss off Superman. Arenas has a lot to prove this week by backing up what he said.

Toronto vs. Orlando is a wash. Chris Bosh vs. Dwight Howard. Oh, to be young, talented and big. Denver vs. Lakers. Wake me when it's over. The only way this is interesting is if Carmelo Anthony drives the team bus.

Atlanta vs. Boston. Josh Smith and Al Horford are the future. KG, Ray Allen and Paul Pierce are the present.

The Hornets are the most surprising team this season, coming out of nowhere to challenge for top seed, taking on underachieving Dallas. Chris Paul versus Jason Kidd in classic elite point guard exhibition. A Mav loss would be devastating to their franchise, a personal affront to Mark Cuban who will have wasted big bucks again trying to get a winning team.

The Jazz are my sleeper team to go all the way, my favorite dog. They face the Rockets who for a stretch late in the season were the hottest team in the league. T-Mac has never gotten the past the first round which is the same as saying Alex Rodriguez has never won a championship.

Philly vs. Motown. Pistons are the ultimate professional team. I remember seeing them win in Boston earlier this season, thinking this team always has a chance to beat the Celts. The No Names in Philadelphia play like they have to win to eat.

I'll watch if I can. While MCV shows all the live NBA games on TNT and ESPN, ABC 7 has not this year shown all the ABC games live. Some of the playoff games are on ABC and it will be interesting to see if Saipan Fan gets them in his living room. And yes, it's available to us on satellite. This morning, we should have gotten Suns/Spurs Game 1 and tomorrow morning Nuggets/Lakers on Channel 7. We'll see (or not). Of course, the power has to be on too.